LOUISVILLE WEEKLY COURIER.

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ADVERTISING.
[illegible]vertisements inserted at the rate of 10 cents per line [illegible] first insertion, and 5 cents per line for each subsequent [illegible]rtion. A line of ordinary writing makes about a line in [illegible]. PAYMENT TO BE MADE IN ADVANCE IN ALL CASES [illegible] deductions made for lengthy advertisements.

State Aid to Railroads.

W[illegible] mentioned in the *Courier* some time ago [illegible] during the ensuing session of the Legislature [illegible]body would greatly subserve the interests of [th]e Commonwealth at large, by passing a bill lending the credit of the State to various railroad enterprises now in progress and contemplated. The Mount Sterling *Whig* favors the [pro]position and indicates the sentiment of that [sec]tion as decidedly favorable to the proposition. [A m]eeting in Boyle county has resolved in favor [of ai]d being granted to the Danville Railroad. [The] Lexington *Observer and Reporter* publishes [the p]roceedings of the meeting, and urges very [stron]g argument in favor of the suggested action [bein]g taken. We regard the favorable reception [of a] suggestion involving so much that is import[ant to] the best interests and progress of Ken[tucky as] indicative of the popular sentiment up[on] the subject, and we shall take it for granted [th]at the representatives of the people will not fa[il] to adopt early measures with reference to the [ma]tter.

[We] have the precedence established by several of the very best States in the Union. Virginia [has] extended her aid to several railroads. Louisi[ana h]as been munificent. So has Alabama and [Georg]ia. Tennessee gives $8,000 per mile to [eac]h railroad constructed in that State, while [Miss]ouri after being excessively liberal heretofore, [at t]he recent session of her Legislature loaned [sev]eral railroads fully ten millions of dollars to [reliev]e them of pressing liabilities.

Why cannot Kentucky act similarly? Our [fi]nances are unembarrassed. Our State bonds are readily convertible into cash. We have no debt hanging over us. It would be a safe venture; w[ith] its imperative necessity is unquestioned. No [m]easure would redound so much to the glory and prosperity of Kentucky as this we are now [con]sidering. It would insure the speedy connection of several roads penetrating the various unimproved sections of the State, and develop those [vast] mineral resources that have lain so long hid[den i]n the earth. The road from Lexington to the Big Sandy should receive assistance; so should one leading toward Memphis and the Mississippi river; with one toward Knoxville. Kentu[ck]y has the ability to successfully prosecute all these great works of internal improvement. She established a precedent herself in 1835 and the following years by expending millions for the im[pro]vement of the Kentucky, Green, Barren and Licking rivers. The greater importance of rail[ro]ads is now a conceded point. Hence, if it was proper twenty years ago to extend the credit of the State in making slack-water improvements, [it c]annot certainly be objectionable now to do the [sam]e thing for railroads At any rate let the peo[ple] have an opportunity of voting on the proposi[tion].

"The Wild Hunt for Office."

[O]ne of the leading sections in the platform of [the] Philadelphia Convention of Know-Nothings, [adv]ocates what is termed the "wild hunt after [office]." It leads the reader to suppose that the [mem]bers of the immaculate order of K. N.'s in[s]edulously to eschew all office-seeking; that [they] will remain at home, and await with dignity [the c]alls from retirement to enter the service. A greater fallacy could not be entertained. The rule in this case has been reversed. It works wholly by contrarieties. Never in the history of parties has there been witnessed such a scramble for office as in the brief career of the *pseudo American*. We had full exemplification of the [ind]ecent haste of aspirants in our own State and city, prior to the last election. Everywhere were greedy seekers for the spoils. All claimed a sh[are] in return for the least service performed. [It] has been the same case in every State [whe]re the Know-Nothings have gained the least [sho]w of power.

[In] fact we are now having a beautiful exam[ple o]f this "wild hunt after office" among the Know-Nothings of our State. The Legislature a[sse]mbles next week, and will have to elect some five officers in each House. For the dignities and double pay of the Speakership there are several aspiring K. N. gentlemen. Among the prominent ones are Messrs. R. C. Bowling of L[o]gan, J. W. Menzies of Kenton, John B Huston of Clarke and L. A. Whitely of this city.

Upon the Clerkship the eyes of a half dozen candidates are placed with the most wistful looks. So with the Assistant Clerk's place. For Doorkeeper there are nearly a dozen candidates, and for Sergeant-at-Arms a similar number. These two last mentioned offices are inconsiderable in position, and scarcely pay the board-bills of the incumbents. Yet we see a score of members of a party which holds in holy horror office seek[i]ng, aspiring to almost valueless places. They [are] seeking empty reputations. How the con[fli]cting claims of the the various "seekers" will [be d]isposed of we know not, unless King Caucus [be] called into requisition He will doubtless [ma]ke sad havoc and terrible slaughter among [the] "innocents" of the K. N. party.

Know-Nothing Tyranny.

The defeat of the Know-Nothings in the re[cent] municipal elections in Massachusetts has caused quite a commotion among the dark lan[tern] gentry. They have summoned all members [wh]o refused to obey the mandates of the K. N. [c]hiefs, and the political guillotine has been set up to frighten them into "sorrow and repentance [an]d future submission." They have, however, in [one] of the Worcester members, found an "American" who treats their summons with [mer]ited contempt. He answers:

[To] Dexter F. Parker, President of the K. N. [Co]uncil No. 33:

[I have] been summoned before the Council over [whi]ch you preside, to answer to the charge of [vot]ing other than the American ticket on Monday last. My answer is in a few words.

[I] exercise the right of an American citizen with independence of an American freeman, and I de[n]y the right of any man or set of men to question my right so to do; and any American who [wou]ld question that right is an unworthy descendant of our revolutionary fathers.

[I]t is hardly necessary to say that a man who [utte]rs sentiments such as the above is not want[ed i]n a Know-Nothing lodge, and Mr. Parker [was] consequently expelled.

A Divorce Case.

[Recent]ly there has been some degree of ex[citeme]nt in Bardstown and vicinity, growing out [of a] suit instituted by a husband against his [wife], for divorce. Able counsel were employed [on b]oth sides, who spent some two weeks in [takin]g the depositions of various witnesses. [Ev]erything had been got in readiness for trial, [whe]n, to the utter astonishment of those who were engaged in the case, on Monday morning, the lawyers found that the litigants forgot and [for]give. They are now living together.

The counsel in the case were Ex-Gov Wickliffe and R. L. Wickliffe for the husband, and Sam Carpenter, Jr., for the wife.

[N]o Joking in Court.—On Friday each mem[ber] of the jury of the Marine Court in New York [wa]s fined $20, for handing to the court, as the [resu]lt of their deliberations in a replevin case, [the] following. "We, the jurors in this case [agree] to disagree." The jurors ought to be punished for making use of a joke so stale as this.

The citizens of Cincinnati have purchased [a] magnificent silver service, which they intend to present to Miles Greenwood, Esq., as a testimonial of their high appreciation of his public services in the Fire Department and elsewhere.

The Know-Nothings carried Wilmington, N. C., last August, by a majority of five hundred. Last Thursday their local ticket had but 15 majority.

Fine Stock.

We had the pleasure yesterday of examining a lot of very superior blooded stock about being shipped per steamer Alvin Adams to New Orleans. The lot consisted of two fine Durham bulls, thirteen head of Durham heifers, one of which was sold at $300, two hundred Cotswold and Southdown sheep. They were all in the very best condition, and exhibited the effects of careful management on the part of the experienced grower.

R. W. Scott, Esq., of Locust Grove, Franklin county, one of the most intelligent and enterprising agriculturists in Kentucky, raised the lot we have mentioned above. He makes this his chief business now, and has his extensive farm stocked with the very finest blooded animals. The lot shipped yesterday was the third he has dispatched this season to F. Ducayet, of New Orleans. Each of these lots averaged $2,000 in value.

Kentucky Legislature.

This body convenes at Frankfort on Monday next, and as a good deal of business will have to be transacted, its session will probably be prolonged a few weeks beyond the Constitutional term. Our associate and correspondent, whose popular letters, over the signature of "Se De Kay," have been so generally read and universally admired, will be in attendance as a member of the "Third House," and will furnish the readers of the *Courier* with daily sketches of what is transpiring in and about the Capital. He will also furnish us with "pen portraits" of the principal members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

A Curious Case.—A young German girl was tried last week at Reading, Pa., for the murder of her infant. She was acquitted. The Commonwealth undertook to establish the fact that the child had been born alive by evidence of an examination of the lungs by the hydrostatic test, by physicians who gave it as their opinion that the child had lived, because the lungs floated in water in whole and in parts. The doctors had neglected to regulate strictly the temperature of the water in which the lungs were tested. This was taken advantage of by the counsel for the defense, Mr. Richards, who by a very ingenious and delicate experiment, demonstrated to the jury that there was no reliance to be placed on the hydrostatic test, unless the temperature of the water had been carefully ascertained.

He put a small vial of shot, just heavy enough to float in water of medium temperature, into warm water, and it sunk. On putting it into cold water the vial floated. Ample authorities were quoted, old and new, English and German, to show that no reliance should be placed on the hydrostatic test. The counsel declared his intention to explode it in English and German—by hot and cold water—that it should not put another innocent person's life in peril.

As journalists we feel a duty in calling public attention to that invaluable specific known as "Hurley's Sarsaparilla." The cures it has performed are matters of fact, well known in this city, and its oft-repeated trials by the medical practitioner is sufficient proof that is the only reliable remedy in those affections where the use of sarsaparilla is indicated. Its most extensive and useful application, however, is to the treatment of Scrofula, Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, and that shattered condition of the system which oftentimes follows the imprudent use of mercury. It has earned a reputation from one end of the States to the other as a valuable medicine in chest complaints, and it is to be hoped those suffering from that fatal and hereditary disease, consumption, will not fail to use it. d&w

Growth of Tobacco in Germany.—A Vienna correspondent of the Washington *Union* states that the grain market has risen throughout the German Confederacy. He also states an interesting fact, which may explain in part, at least, the rise in grain, that the cultivation of tobacco has, within the last few years, increased to a very considerable extent in the interior of Germany, especially in the Grand Duchy of Baden, the exports of which alone are estimated to exceed a million of florins a year. In some localities the culture of provisions has been abandoned to give place to this more profitable crop. The quotations are 16, 20, and even 25 florins per quintal

Two or three weeks since the New York *Tribune* spoke of the Louisville *Courier* as a "Democratic paper," and the other day Mr. Greeley, in one of his Washington letters, referred to Mr. "Bullock, of the Louisville *Courier*," as one of the corps in that city. Our contemporary has, somehow or other, lost the hang of things. Although we could not hesitate in deciding in favor of Democracy as against Abolitionism, yet the *Courier* is very far from being a Democratic paper. Mr. Bullock is editor of the *Daily Times*, of this city.

Distressing Affair!—We understand that several days ago, while a number of boys were playing on Green street, near Ninth, a lad named Seymour became engaged in an altercation with a negro boy, the property of Mr. Parrent. The white boy ran a knife in the forehead of the negro, breaking off the point, and causing such a wound that it proved fatal on Saturday.

Large Robbery.—The store of Jauray & Sons on Broadway, N. Y., was robbed on Sunday of laces, silks, etc., to the amount of $25,600 The goods were afterwards found by the police in an adjoining store, whither they had been removed by the burglars preparatory to being carted off. The thieves escaped.

Negro Stampede.—The Memphis *Appeal* of the 21st says: We understand that one of our citizens received a dispatch from Natchez yesterday, giving an account of the escape from that city of forty negroes. It is conjectured that they were carried off by some up river boat, in the hands of Abolitionists or negro thieves.

Hon. David Merriwether, Govenor of New Mexico, has returned from his visit to Washington, to his family residence in this vicinity. During the trip, he had the misfortune to loose his baggage. If any one discoveres the trunk, &c., of the Governor, they would do well to send them on.

Six years ago the foundation of a Printers Rest, or almshouse, was laid at Woodgreen, near Hornsey, England, by the Earl of Stanhope. The work, after unavoidable delays, is now going on again, and the edifice will be finished next summer. It is designed for superannuated printers.

Dreadful Accident.—On Monday last, near Fairbanks, in Sullivan county, Ind., a little son of Mrs. Johnson was killed by a falling tree, which crushed his head and scattered his brains over a little sister, who was in his company, going into a wood to visit an older brother.

Robert Bunyan, Esq., eighty years of age, the last male descendant in a direct line from John Bunyan, the author of the celebrated allegory, "Pilgrim's Progress," died at his residence in Grecian Place, Lincoln, England, on 17th November.

Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself hath said, I will a family paper take, both for my own and children's sake? If such there be, let him repent, and have this paper to him sent.

The publishers of Philadelphia and others gave a public dinner on Thursday evening to Louis A. Godey, Esq., the proprietor of Godey's Lady's Book. Near one hundred persons were present and partook of the dinner

Lorenzo Pedro, a New Orleans merchant was lately robbed of $25,000 by two of his confidential clerks.

A Big Day's Business.—At New Orleans, on the 19th inst., the sales of Cotton amounted to 24,000 bales, at an advance of 1-4c. per lb.

W. K. Edwards, Esq., of Terre Haute, Ia., has been elected President of the Board of Trustees of the State University.

P. P. F. De Grand, one of the oldest and most respected brokers of Boston, died on the 23d inst.

Pulpit Portraits.

We find the ministers of the Methodist persuasion so numerous in our city that it is a matter of some difficulty to select, from the number, one as a representative of the class. The one who has, we believe, been longest a resident of Louisville is the

REV. GEORGE W. SMILEY,

at present the pastor of Sehon Chapel, on Third street. Mr. S. was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania in the year 1818. His ancestors were Scotch Presbyterians, and he accordingly enjoyed all the rare advantages of moral and religious training at the hands of sturdy, pious and resolute parents. His ancestry came to the colonies at a very early period and was prominent in establishing religious worship, as well as contending for our civil rights in the days of the Revolution. Mr. Smiley received his education partly in Harrisburgh, the capital of Pennsylvania. He completed his course of studies at Woodside Institute, an institution of learning situated at the falls of the Schuylkill, six miles from Philadelphia. There he was under Quaker supervision, and of course derived much benefit from the instructions of the pious and orderly Friends. They impressed upon his mind those lessons of method and system so necessary in a ministers of the gospel.

In the spring of 1848, when twenty-two years of age, Mr. Smiley united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in the city of Cincinnati. He entered upon the work of the ministry the ensuing fall, and removing to this State, labored in the counties of Jefferson and Oldham. He has been for fifteen years in the regular traveling of the Methodist ministry, and during all of that period located at various points in Kentucky. The following leading stations have been occupied by Mr. S., viz:

Russellville, Richmond, Maysville, Covington, Frankfort, Nicholasville, and Middletown. The prominence and importance of these places, and the necessity of establishing the interests of the Methodist Church at each, well attests the estimation in which the Bishops have always held his talents and zeal.

Upon the resignation of Rev. E. W. Sehon, of the pastoral care of Sehon Chapel, in April, 1855, Mr. Smiley was transferred to that, and continues to labor as its pastor with increasing success. As a preacher Mr. S. has greatly improved since his entrance into the ministry. He is a ready, graceful, and fluent speaker, with a voice in which there is a touch of pathos very appropriate to the pulpit. He is warm, earnest, and forcible; often indulges in flights of fancy and other arts of the rhetorician, but never violates good taste. In the many cities and villages where he has resided, large congregations attended his preaching, and in each place he left behind him a reputation for honest zeal and effective industry in the cause he espoused. Without being profound, he is an impressive, eloquent, and interesting pulpit orator.

Besides his pastoral labors Mr. Smiley conducted, with much success, the Frankfort Female College and the Jessamine Female Academy, acting as President of each, but serving at the same time as an instructor, for which post his pleasant manners admirably qualify him. Both as teacher and preacher Mr. S. has been a useful man. He is thirty-seven years of age, of slight frame, and an intellectual cast of features.

There is a general impression abroad that the Chicago bubble is bound to burst at a day not very distant, and we fear that some of the many Kentuckians who have been speculating extensively in property there, would have done better to have made their investments here. The following paragraphs from the Chicago *Democrat*, of the 25th, show that they are at last beginning to have some hard times up there:

Hard Times.—A man of considerable means stepped into a broker's office in this city on Saturday, and asked for the loan of $1,000 till Thursday next. The broker said he could have the use of the money till that day for *forty dollars!* Another gentleman, on the same day, having a payment to make on Monday, asked for the loan of $600 til that day. The broker said he could have it for *thirty dollars!* The gentleman offered twenty dollars, but the broker would not come down a peg.

More Effects of the Money Panic.—One of our largest builders discharged all his hands on Saturday, except his foreman. Some of the hands had been employed by him for a long period. Last winter he employed his hands throughout the entire season.

A man calling himself Saml. J. Proper, who for several months has been cutting quite a swell at Chicago, as a man of fortune, and speculation in property, absconded the other day, after swindling the good people of that place out of $25,000 to $30,000, by borrowing checks and giving his own, dated ahead, in exchange, and selling drafts on the Bank of America, New York. Several of the sharpest Chicago bankers were "done" out of amounts varying from $1,000 to $5,000

The Cincinnati *Commercial*, one of the best conducted and most enterprising papers in the Union, comes to us in a new and handsome dress. The *Commercial* is a paper the K. N's made desperate efforts to kill off a few months since, but it looks very much like a real "live" paper now.

The Pittsburgh *Dispatch*, a spirited and well-conducted sheet, also appears in a very handsome new dress. We are rejoiced to see such evidences of prosperity on the part of our contemporaries.

Cattle are still driven to California (overland) in large numbers, notwithstanding the heavy losses suffered by the way, and the increase of the stock in that State. A paper published at Placerville, Cal., notices the arrival in that place of some three hundred head of cattle, belonging to one firm, four hundred and forty-five to another, and five hundred and fifty to another. All these were driven from the States across the plains.

The following items of interest to persons in this city and vicinity, where the telegraph instrument is partly owned, is from the Paris correspondence of the N. Y. *Times:*

Mr. Hughes, the inventor of the improved Electric Telegraph, is in town, and has already created a sensation with his invention. There is a prospect that he will realize a large sum in its sale.

Madame Ablamowicz, the delightful songstress, gave a concert at Millersburg, Bourbon county, on Thursday evening. She gives one at Paris on Monday evening. Our Bourbon friends may anticipate a delightful musical treat. Madame A. sings with rare skill and sweetness.

It is related of one of the Chippewa Indians now in Boston, that being asked why the Indians do not dress like the whites, replied: "We started your fashions; your men now wear blankets, as we do, and your women paint their faces and wear feathers," and he might have added that they dress in the skins of wild beasts.

The notorious Kate Hastings recently died in the Charity Hospital in Paris. She was for many years the proprietor of the most infamous and gorgeous house in the city of New York, and about four years since distinguished herself by cowhiding "Ned Buntline," for remarks concerning her published in his paper.

An Elegant Present.—The editor of the New York *Mirror* was shown the other day an opal breast-pin, set in a circle of diamonds, which was intended as a Christmas present to a lady of that city. It cost the very moderate sum of between four and five thousand dollars.

Stamps Required.—On and after January 1st all letters to go by mail will have to be pre-paid by stamps or stamped envelopes. Stamps can be purchased in any quantity at the Post-Office, but money will not be received for the pre payment of postage.

Yankee Dave, a man who is charged with firing Ambruster's brewry, on the day of the election riots, has been arrested. He will undergo an examination this morning before Judge Johnston.

The Danville (Ky.) *Tribune* of yesterday says that Hon. A. G. Talbot, M. C. from that district, is at present at his home in Boyle county, having been summoned from Washington in consequence of serious illness in his family.

What is Being Done at Washington.

Nothing has yet been accomplished, and the probability of an organization appears as far in the future as when the House convened. The Democrats have again resolved to stand by their candidate, though the much lauded "seventy-four" have shrunk into sixty-six—the effects of cold weather and the frequent steppings out for hot stimulants, while the ballotings are being had

On Saturday Humphrey Marshall became very much fatigued at 4 o'clock—there was a warm dinner and a bottle to wash down the feast at his hotel. But the House appears unwilling to do anything to gratify Humphrey. They would not elect him Speaker. They would not accept his propositions of compromise. They would not adjourn in order that he might go to his dinner. Subsequently some one else made the motion to adjourn, and it prevailed.

Two Cincinnati editors are figuring about Washington seeking "pap" to lubricate their parched throats. One of them, Col. Schuler, of the *Gazette*, is desirous of being made Printer to the House. The other, Mr. Robinson, of the *Enquirer*, stands a fair chance of getting the Senate printing. Both are fat jobs.

While the House is playing and the Senate resting idly upon its oars, there is one branch of the government in which industry prevails—that is the Supreme Court. Of one hundred and fifty cases on the docket, twenty-four have already been disposed of, and the remainder can be decided by the 1st of April. The venerable judges work with a will that the young legislators would do well to emulate.

Last Monday there were indications of defection among the Democrats toward Mr. Richardson, but they were checked as soon as uttered. Mr. Shorter, of Alabama, announced his intention of bolting, in a prepared speech, but as soon as he was about to name the new preference, Mr. Elliott, of Kentucky, interrupted him by saying, he would "never, never" support the man to whom Mr Shorter withdrew, whereupon Mr. Shorter instantaneously renounced his purpose and backed down, as if hit with a thunderbolt, to the universal amusement of the House.

Horace Greeley writes to the *Tribune* that the strongest man on the Know-Nothing side of the House is the Hon. N. G. Foster, a Baptist minister, of Georgia. Furthermore, he says that a speech made by Mr. F., the other day, was the best of the session, in point of statesmanlike manner and dignity. Where is Humphrey?

Since the session commenced in the Lower House our Kentucky delegation have been making themselves quite conspicuous. Capt. Cox, of the Fleming District, was put forth as a Know-Nothing champion, and spoke two days, calling down the galleries in applause very frequently. Elliott, of the Mountains, interrupted Cox with several capital hits, and has made something of a reputation as a wag. Jno. P. Campbell, of the Hopkinsville, made a maiden speech of good quality, the letter-writers saying that he has a fine voice and much fluency. Humphrey Marshall has failed in everything, but particularly insists on being heard on every question. Five of the delegation have been complimented with votes for Speaker, viz: Cox, Dr. Marshall, Humphrey do., Jewett and Underwood. Swope and Burnett are the only men who have thus far hid their lights under a bushel. We cannot even find them recorded as moving to adjourn.

The Hog Market—Slaughter.

The packing season is now drawing to a close, with but moderate receipts of hogs this week. As regards prices, the market has undergone a decided decline, as we noted Saturday, with a sale of 500 hogs at $5 25 net, for cash, and several other small lots at $5 50 on 4 months' time. The prevailing price at the same period last year was $4 50 net. The packing at Owsley & Co.'s has closed for the season, and several others expect to wind up during the present week. The actual number of hogs killed and in pen around the falls up to last evening is annexed:

Packers.	Hogs killed.	In pens
Hall, Hunt & Co.	71,068	700
Hamilton, Ricketts & Co.	31,101	2,639
A. S. White & Co.	32,344	360
Atkinson, Thomas & Co.	43,757	1,301
Owsley & Co.	34,436	
Wm. Jarvis & Co.	18,845	85
Huffman, Hamilton & Co.	14,511	
New Albany (estimated)	9,000	
Total	256,[illegible]3	4,919

The total number of hogs killed and in pen up to last evening was 261,932, against 258,597 at the same period last season. This shows a small excess this year over the last, including the estimated packing at New Albany. The packing at that point last year at this period was 12,500, and the present number may exceed our report

The packing by Macklin, at Frankfort, has about closed, with 12,600 hogs killed; and the packing at Oregon is expected not to exceed 4,200, which is equal to last year.

The Fillibuster Difficulty.

Our New York exchanges, for two or three days, have been chiefly taken up in the accounts of the arrest of the steamship Northern Light; what the captain (Tinklebaugh) said; what Col. Parker H. French remarked; how Attorney McKeon was excited; what the President telegraphed; how the b'hoys swore; what the captured fillibusters threatened; how bail was required and given; how revenue cutters formed a blockading squadron, and a great many just such incidents as a reporter for a fast daily paper always manages to discover or invent. We do not care to reproduce all this small talk in our columns. It is sprightly enough and of momentary interest; but the affair is all over now. Nicaragua has been saved from an incursion of New York rounders. President Pierce has been equal to one emergency. The country is safe. Allah Akbar.

Disturbances in Kansas.

It appears that the peace we announced as having been patched up in [Kan]sas turns out to be no peace at all. The telegraphic despatches, which we publish this morning, inform us of an election riot at Lawrence, the Free-soil head-quarters, and of other serious disturbances between the pro and anti-slavery parties.

Another Daring Burglary—*Four Thousand Dollars' Worth of Goods Stolen.*—Sometime Friday night the tailoring establishment of D. C. Heiskell, on Main street, opposite the Galt House, was forcibly entered by a gang of daring burglars and robbed of a vast amount of valuable cloths, silk, plush and velvet vestings. They ransacked the store, searching out the finest goods, and Mr. Heiskell thinks his loss amounts to fully $4,000. A back door, which had been securely locked and bolted on the inside, had been forced open from the outside, which was the way the robbers effected an entrance. From the extent of the robbery it was evident that more than one person was concerned in it, and it is equally certain that the goods are secreted somewhere in the city. The only clue to the robbery, ascertained yesterday, was the marks of a wagon which were traced down back of the Galt House, and the supposition is that the stolen property was conveyed away in this wagon. A heavy reward is offered for the apprehension of the thieves, or the recovery of the property, which will, we hope, lead to the detection of the robbers.

Irish Agriculture.—A correspondent of the London *Times*, in commenting upon the progress of Irish agriculture, states that during the past fourteen years the value of farm stock in Ireland has increased from £22,000,000 to £35,000,000 sterling, and that the number of horned cattle has risen from 2,000,000 to 3,250,000, while the quality has correspondingly improved. Still, however, of the 20,000,000 of acres which Ireland comprises, only about one-fourth is under direct tillage, and fully one-third in pasture.

For some weeks the Know-Nothings of New York have been choosing delegates to the K. N. Presidential Convention, to be holden at Philadelphia, February 22d. The New York *Tribune* has the best authority for saying that George Law is carrying everything before him in the election. Mr. Fillmore appears to be laid upon the shelf at home. He is like Mr. Crittenden, most unpopular where best known.

Nicholas Dean, a prominent citizen of New York, died a few days since, aged 65 years. He was one of Henry Clay's most intimate friends.

An Asylum for Idiots.

The communication in this morning's *Courier* from J. A. Jacobs, long Superintendent of the State Deaf and Dumb Asylum, merits the attention not alone of the General Assembly, but of the general reader. It gives an encouraging account of the State institution over which Mr. J. presides—a condition of affairs of which we are happy to hear.

Another topic is touched in the article worthy of the consideration of every citizen of Kentucky. It is a proposition to found an Asylum for the Idiotic. We have often wondered at the indifference prevailing in the United States toward that most pitiable class of all who are afflicted. There is something akin to sublimity in the ravings of insanity—the dethronement of reason. In the blind we are affected with pleasure by the keenness of their other sensations, and the quick appreciation they have for some, if not all of the gentlest and most ennobling of accomplishments. To the mute are given eyes that they may look out upon the glories of creation, and hands that they may interpret their thoughts and wishes. But the poor idiot—the imbecile in mind, while gifted with all the senses, sits in outer darkness. For him shines no day, nor sparkles the starry sheen of the heavens. They are utter blanks to his comprehension. He sees, but *feels* not, the glories of nature and the wonderful creations of art. His mind has not even the excitements pertaining to one reft of reason. He is a mere cypher in the world, with barely brutish instincts.

Thus terribly stricken by God, his case appeals strongly to the notice and the relief of the authorities. That relief is possible has been fully demonstrated by experiments. An intellect may not be created, but the long dormant faculties may be aroused from their deathlike sluggishness, and life rendered at least comfortable, if not in the highest degree enjoyable. New York and Pennsylvania have established Asylums for the Idiotic, and the carefully ascertained results leave us no reason to doubt the practicability of an improvement in the condition of this unfortunate class.

We understand that Gov. Morehead will, in his message, recommend this matter to the attention of the Legislature. In that event we trust there will be no delay about organizing such an institution. The State can afford it, and she owes it to her reputation, as being always one of the pioneers in public charities, to hasten the establishment of an Asylum for Idiots.

Book Notices.

The Escaped Novice. By Josephine M. Bunkley, pp. 338. New York. Harper & Brothers, publishers.—The Harpers have issued in handsome style a 12mo. volume entitled as above. It contains the testimony of Miss Bunkley, whose escape from the Sisterhood of St. Joseph, Md., some time since, caused so much excitement in the reading world. The veil is effectually torn aside in this book, and some of the most startling scenes disclosed—revealing a few of the "mysteries" hidden within the walls of a convent. We have no doubt but the work will meet with an extensive circulation.

The Homestead on the Hillside. By Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, 12mo., pp. 380. New York: Miller, Orton & Mulligan, publishers.—This is another of those fascinating stories that have, during the past year, become so popular with the reading public. Its authoress possesses a finely cultivated mind and a vivid imagination, enabling her to impart to their different pictures, a life-likeness seldom attained by her cotemporaries.

This book is gotten up in excellent 12mo. style, and reflects much credit upon the enterprising house of Millar, Orton & Mulligan.

Mason Brothers, publishers, New York, have just issued from their prolific press a new book filled with enchanting scenes, entitled "Indian Fairy Book, from Original Legends." The stories of this book are written by a pen of magic power, which has, as with the touch of a talismanic rod, opened up fresh and sparkling fountains in the wilds of the West. It will be the gift book of the season. Its illustrations are admirably executed.

Death of a Little Girl from Hydrophobia. The Lockport (N. Y.) *Journal* gives the particulars of the death of a little girl on Wednesday evening last in that village from the effects of a bite by a rabid cat. She was bitten some five weeks since over the eye, the wound exhibiting the prints of the teeth. The cat had been bitten by a dog, which was ascertained to be rabid, and the parents being alarmed, submitted the case to a physician. No decided symptoms of the horrible disease, however, were manifested until Saturday, the 15th, when drowsiness and excitability at the approach of fluids, were exhibited by the child. On Saturday the poor sufferer grew wild and frantic, and during the day was thrown into violent spasms. The convulsions which shook the frame of the patient were redoubled with frightful intensity at the approach of fluids; every nerve repelling its vicinity with spasmodic horror. Every effort was made to save her, but she linge ed until Wednesday evening when she died.

Unmanly Cruelty.—We are informed, by a gentleman who was an eye-witness to the scene, of a piece of unpardonable barbarity. Yesterday some drovers found it impossible to drive several hogs on the ferry-boat, at the Jeffersonville landing, and becoming maddened with vexation, drew out their knives, cut the ham-strings of the poor animals, and punched out their eyes. Were these men, or brutes, or devils?

The omission of the Senators from Massachusetts from any of the important committees in the United States Senate, appears to give the people of their State the utmost satisfaction. The Boston *Courier says* that Mr. Sumner never held any rank as a lawyer, and that he is no business man; and that Mr. Wilson is a most perfect ignoramus.

Heavy Cotton Sale.—The sales in the New Orleans cotton market, on the 19th instant, were heavier than ever before recorded for a single day. They amounted to over 24,000 bales. What is not less gratifying to planters and sellers, says the *Picayune*, they were sold, too, at an advance of 1-4 cent per pound.

At the close of the services in the Charles street Methodist Church, Baltimore, an old gentleman in the congregation moved a vote of thanks to the preacher, Rev. Wm. B. Edwards. He remarked that he had heard many Christmas sermons, but "*that* one took them down."

Another Steam Line.—The Boston *Advertiser* states that the stock for three swift American steamers, to ply between Panama and Valparaiso, has been nearly taken up by capitalists chiefly in New York and Boston. The first steamer is expected to be upon the route in about ten months from the present time.

Yesterday afternoon there was organized, at the Walnut street Church, a Baptist Church Extension Society. Two well located and valuable lots have been donated to the society, for the erection of church edifices, which houses will be built during the ensuing spring.

We hear the lecture of Rev. E. P. Humphrey, at the Second Presbyterian Church last night, spoken of as more than worthy of his very exalted reputation. His subject was the Bible.

The potato crop in Ireland is unusually large; some districts producing 250 bushels to the acre. Its total value amounts to twelve million pounds sterling.

John R. Gray, a policeman in the Eighth Ward, died on Friday, of congestion of the brain. He was buried yesterday, with fireman's honors. The deceased leaves a wife and children.

Governors Hebert, of Louisiana, Manning, of South Carolina, and McRae, of Mississippi, were in New Orleans on the 18th inst.

Josiah Bradley, a Boston merchant, has given $10,000 for the purpose of erecting an Asylum for decrepid sailors.

The New York and Erie, and the New York Central railroads have increased the freight charge fully ten per cent.

There are now laid up in winter quarters at Chicago two hundred and eighteen steamers and sail craft.

Miss Jenny Campbell, aged 115 years, died in Orange county, Va., on the 6th inst.

Ninety inferior slaves were sold in Pike county, Ala., on the 16th, for $65,000.

[For the Louisville Courier.]

Kentucky Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. A school for the Education of the Idiotic and Imbecile Children.

Danville, Dec. 12, 1855.

Gentlemen: Permit me, through your columns, to bring before the attention of the public and the members of the next Legislature of Kentucky, the establishment of an institution for the education of Idiotic and weak-minded children. To many, no doubt, the idea of educating Idiots will seem not only novel, but absurd. Their capability of improvement, as a class to a very useful degree, has, however, been fully tested by schools for their education, both in Europe and America. It is no longer a doubtful question, and ought never to have been one to thoughtful and benevolent minds.

Under the term and class of idiots, are included persons of various grades of intellect; from the feeble-minded, who can yet hold with you an intelligent conversation, down to the child utterly imbecile both in mind and body. Now this latter portion are not the most numerous; yet their incapacity of receiving improvement is transferred and ascribed to the whole class and all have been excluded from the means of instruction and abandoned to hopeless ignorance and helplessness, and become, if of poor parentage, as almost all unfortunates, the deaf and dumb and the blind included, are, the dependant beneficiaries of the State for life.

The better and larger portion of Idiots need only peculiar and patient instruction to make the most gratifying and beneficial advancement, to render them capable of self-support, and to elevate them above dependancy upon the State; I mean capable of self-support under the care and direction of their friends. There is no more reason for excluding one-half or more of those, usually termed idiots, and whose names are now to be found on the Auditor's books as the annual recipients of their daily bread from the State, from the benefits and elevating influence of education than the deaf and dumb and the blind, who were once considered equally incapable, and consigned to the disregard, if not contempt, of their fellow men.

And the worst portion of Idiotic children, if taken at an early age, are found to be susceptible of such improvement, with no doubt some exceptions, as to be no longer objects of hideous loathsomeness—a perpetual source of parental discomfort and misery. Children who would never walk may be, we are told, taught to walk—to dress themselves—and to be decent and cleanly in their persons—to become objects of interest instead of disgust.

In confirmation of these statements I present the following extracts from a letter from Dr. H. W. Wilbur, Superintendent of the New York Institution for the Education of Idiots, dated Albany, Dec. 6, 1855.

"We have 80 pupils, and expect 10 more in a few weeks. We shall have some thirty applications on our list, that we shall not receive till spring.

* * * * * * * * * *

"Now in answer to your request for such facts as I may think adapted to convince a Legislature of the propriety and duty of founding an institution for the education of Idiots, I can only say that it is rather difficult in the compass of a letter, to present them. There can be no question of the fact that a large number of idiots are to be found in your State. I know not what number are returned in any census of the State; but, whatever it may be, it is safe to multiply it by two, to arrive at the actual number.

"That they may be educated is now pretty satisfactorily proved by the results of the experiments in this country.

"Our institution has grown up under the eye of four successive Legislatures. A majority of the members of each of those actually visited the asylum, and saw the progress made by the pupils and the every day working of the system of instruction. The very liberal legislation that has resulted is proof of their conviction of the wisdom of founding such an asylum. An exhibition of some of our pupils would be pretty certain to produce a very favorable effect upon that body. I think a similar effort to the one you propose to make will be made in Ohio this winter. Should that be the case, I might bring two or three of my best pupils through Columbus to Kentucky. This would not involve any serious expense.

"I long to see the day when every State in the Union may have an asylum for idiots. I know the difficulties in the way of educating idiots better than any one can know, except those like myself engaged in the labor of educating them, just as you know how much labor is involved in educating a deaf mute. Still, I assure you, my faith does not waver in the entire practicability of educating them, as a class. Some there will be, who will resist all our labors. We ought not, therefore, cease to attempt to benefit those who may be benefited.

"Pray excuse this desultory letter, written when quite fatigued by the duties of the day. Wishing you success in your efforts to extend the State's charity toward one more unfortunate class of her children, I remain yours, very truly."

I have made sufficient experiment, with the most gratifying results, upon several deaf mute idiots, to justify a full belief in the practicability of educating a large portion of those whose condition render them much more accessible to instruction, from their possessing the faculties of hearing and speech.

We have now in the institution three pupils who are idiots; who are making daily progress in general intelligence and in the knowledge of letters. Their progress, to be sure, is small compared with the rest of the pupils; but great and eminently gratifying, compared with their former condition and with their mental capacities.

The one who has been longest under instruction, is a girl about twelve years old. She was brought to us at about eight, at that time a perfect idiot, with not a particle of intelligence—with violent passions, and without an ability to communicate her wants, even the most simple. When she wanted water, seeing you drinking, she would run and hold open her mouth and look up in your face, as would any other animal. Her whole time was spent alternately in paroxisms of violent pleasure or distress or passion. During the former she would jump and run, convulsed with laughter, and during the latter, excited by ungovernable passion and obstinacy. All this has been subdued, and few perhaps would recognize any thing, in her appearance, but that of a very pretty and well behaved child.

She can now dress herself, take partial care of her clothing, aid in making up her bed, in sweeping her room, in setting and clearing off the table, and will ultimately learn to make and have the care of her own clothes. She has learned a large vocabulary of words of every class and part of speech, and can answer many simple questions, and express her wants to some degree, both in signs and writing. She is making some progress also in moral and religious knowledge, and is modest in her behavior, and acquainted with the proprieties of her sex.

We have a little boy of ten or eleven years of age, who was equally ignorant and idiotic with the child above mentioned, but of a more amiable disposition. He has been under instruction about a year, and so rapid is his progress in general intelligence, that were it not that the smallness of his head forbids the hope, there would be good reason to anticipate, in time, an almost total restoration to sanity. Both of these children would have passed, for life, confirmed Idiots. Both were exceedingly troublesome at home. Here they are now little or none at all, more than the rest of our pupils. At first, the boy was very careless and negligent of his clothes, tearing them to pieces, and unable to take any care of them. He now has the entire control over them, and is very careful of them, and particular to bring them to be mended, when the slightest worn. While it took the girl a year to learn the alphabet, he in that time has learned a considerable vocabulary of words, and is now learning to put them together in little sentences.

We have a lad, some fourteen or fifteen years old, who has been under instruction about a year. He bears in his countenance the unmistakable marks of idiocy, and always will, more strikingly than the other two, in whom a stranger would scarcely detect it at all. He, also, is making considerable advancement in manners, intelligence and letters. He knows and can write a large vocabulary of words. All three of these children will be elevated to such a degree of knowledge as will enable them, from being not merely utterly useless to their friends and society, but pests and burdens on them, to become useful to themselves and to others—their labor will be worth their support. Both of the boys will be capable of learning a trade to such an extent that their labor will be profitable. The girl will learn to perform ordinary domestic female duties usefully. All of them will have lost every thing of offensive and disagreeable.

We had, some few years ago, a girl about twelve years of age, upon whom, in the course of a couple of years, a greater degree of comparative improvement was made than I have ever seen made upon any other human being. The recollection of it is one of unmingled pleasure. So small was the amount of her intellect that it also required a year to teach her the alphabet. She had no sense whatever of propriety in anything. Her temper was the worst and most unlovely imaginable. She was in an almost continual ill-humor, and spiteful and disagreeable in the highest degree. In a couple of years all this was changed. She became sweet-tempered and amiable, remarkably neat and tidy in her toilet, and, with true feminine vanity, spent a considerable portion of the time in admiring herself in the glass. She had commenced to write little sentences, and to answer easy questions, when she was removed to a new institution for deaf mutes, in Louisiana, from whence she came.

The State of Kentucky now supports over five hundred idiots, at an annual expense of over twenty-two thousand dollars. In 1829, the support of this class cost the State eight thousand six hundred and forty dollars and forty-seven cents, and has increased and is still increasing, on an average, about five hundred dollars annually. It has nearly trebled in twenty-five years. This large sum, indefinitely and yearly augmenting, only puts bread into the mouths of these wretched creaturrs. It would be sufficient, if spent in the support of a school for their instruction, to educate the largest portion of them, and relieve the State, by their improvement, of the life-long care and sustenance of them. The attention of the people and the Legislature is earnestly and respectfully called to this important subject, in perfect confidence that it is one, in all its aspects, benevolent and pecuniary, worthy to command their gravest attention.

Yours, &c., J. A. JACOBS.

P. S. Papers friendly to benevolence and an economical expenditure of the public money will please give the above communication an insertion

J. A. J.

Cause and Effect.—The following capital "take off" on the hoop movement is from the *N. Y. Post:*

The Empress Eugenie expects to present the French nation with an heir to the throne; so the ladies of the French Court wear hoops; so the French haut ton wear hoops; so the American ladies wear hoops. It is hoped they will enjoy this convenient and grand contour until the event takes place, when the ladies of the French Court will subside, the ladies of the French haut ton will subside, and the American ladies will subside.

The Madison (Wisconsin) *Argus* says:

We learn that the eminent actress, Miss Eliza Logan, intends to remove to Madison the coming summer and render it her permanent residence.

Appointments.—Franck Roulhac, Surveyor of the Customs at Hickman, Ky.

W. Irving Crandall, Surveyor of the Customs Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Death of a Revolutionary Veteran.

The Danville *Tribune* announces the death of Mr. John Sneed, in Boyle county, on Friday, the 21st inst, aged one hundred years. His remains were attended to the grave on Sunday afternoon by a very large concourse of citizens and a military company, under the command of Capt. A. S. M. Grooty. The following brief sketch of Mr. Sneed's history we find in the *Tribune*. It is very interesting:

He was born in Albermale county, Virginia, on the 2d day of February, 1755, was for some [time] the Secretary of Thomas Jefferson, then [illegible] ed in an expedition against the Cherokee [Indians], and after that became a soldier in the Revolutionary struggle, in which service he continued until the close of the war. He was with Washington at Valley Forge, during all the privations of that disastrous period, afterwards fought under the same great chieftain at Monmouth, and was one of that gallant army who received the thanks of Congress for their conduct in this engagement. He was then detailed, with a number of picked men from various regiments to the command of Col. Morgan, and finally went to the South with Green, under whom he served until the expiration of the war. At the battle of Guilford he was taken prisoner, and when conducted into the presence of Lord Cornwallis, the following question was put to him by that nobleman. "Where is the baggage of the American army?" "Out of your reach, sir" was the reply. "Why so?" "Because the American army is between you and it."

When peace returned, he emigrated from Virginia to this State and here lived until almost 100 years old. His one hundredth birthday was celebrated in February last, at the residence of his son, by a centennial dinner, where he met many of his relations and friends. He had for several years preceding his death, felt the weight of time hang heavily upon him, and was of course infirm with age. He was surrounded by affectionate and dutiful descendants, who did everything in their power to render him comfortable and happy. He has now departed from the walks of men, full of honor and of years. Peace to his ashes.

And Still Another.—Mr. John Gass died in Bourbon county, on the 23d inst He also was a native of Virginia, and was ninety years old the 5th of this month.

Horrible Affair in Maysville—Negro Burned to Death.

We are informed that on the Kentucky Thanksgiving day, a couple of young men of Maysville, whose family connections are described as of the "highest respectability," were on a drunken spree at the "Parker House," in that place, and protracting their frolic until a very late hour, after all the household had retired to bed, attempted to arouse the bar-keeper to procure more liquor, and failing in this, and succeeding in finding a yellow man, one of the waiters, asleep, they concluded to *set fire to him in order to awaken him!* With this view they took a camphene lamp, and pouring the fluid over his whiskers, ignited it, and the poor fellow's neck and head became instantly wrapped in an intense blaze, which continued until the fluid was consumed. The sufferings of the victim were dreadful in the extreme No refinement of torture could have produced more excruciating misery. But, strange to say, death did not release him from torment until after the lapse of two weeks. The poor creature was the slave of Mr. Jno. Ball, keeper of the Parker House, who says, as our informant tells us, that no human suffering could possibly exceed that of his boy during the fortnight that he lived after the burning. The young men, "respectably connected," whose drunkenness resulted in this horror, are said to allege that they burned the negro by accident—that when holding the lamp to his face they managed to break it, and spill the fiery fluid upon him. The young men are rich. They have agreed to pay Mr. Ball $1,200 for the loss of his servant. Our informant says that no one in Maysville speaks of this transaction without a shudder of horror, but that no movement has been made toward a legal investigation of the matter, and that the "high position" of the parties implicated will overawe any such movement. We ask the citizens of Maysville, in the name of their honor, if these things can be true.

Cincinnati Commercial, 28th.

The Spirit of Know-Nothingism.

Editors Louisville Courier: Passing up Jefferson street, near the intersection of Floyd, this (Christmas) morning, I observed a crowd of young men about the doors of a dram shop, engaged in scuffling and in the use of foul language for their amusement. While thus employed, a young, genteel looking and well-behaved German, coming down the street, endeavored politely to pass by them, but in a moment a mobbish fist struck him a severe blow in the face, which felled him to the earth, and then the cowardly band joined in loud shouts for "Sam" and "Know-Nothings." The poor German picked himself up as best he could, and without uttering a word of complaint, that I could hear, being not more than fifteen or twenty feet distant, walked away.

Thus are honest-hearted and worthy citizens attacked and battered by crowds of our "fast young men," who manifest the lowest spirit of demons, and utterly disgrace the name of American citizens, and the glorious name of our immortal Washington. Yes we have hordes of such characters in our community, who boast themselves of being the sons of Columbia, and as such consider it their all-important duty to attack, knock down, beat, and murder upright and law-abiding adopted American citizens; and in order to accomplish their hellish designs, they prowl around in dastardly squads and thus deter good citizens from arresting them.

Messrs. Editors, I am an American citizen, and rejoice in being such, and consider that no higher duty can be mine to fulfil than to cherish and advocate our glorious and heaven-born principles of political and religious liberty, to one and all, both to native and adopted, according to the Constitution of these United states, as formed by our forefathers, who gored the battle-field with their life-blood for the independence of these States. I condemn no good, law-abiding man of any party, but consider it the duty of every friend of Washington, of the Constitution, and of the sacred rights of freedom, to forsake and discountenance any and every party, whether political or religious—whether in church or state—that is organized for the purpose of uprooting our Government and mobbing our citizens. Let them break away from such parties and become MEN indeed. Yours, J. E. B.

Louisville, Dec. 25.

A Short Honeymoon.—On the 20th last, we published the following:

Married.—On the 19th inst., at the house of his brother, Mark Beaubien, by Justice Lamb, Gen. J. B. BEAUBIEN to Miss KATE L. PENNEAN, all of this city.

Notice.—All persons are forbid trusting my wife, Kate Louisa, on my account, as she has left my bed and board without cause or provocation, and I shall pay no debts of her contracting.

JOHN B. BEAUBIEN.

Miss Kate must be exceedingly hard to please. Gen. Beaubien is known to our first citizens for the past 20 years, and has ever been most highly esteemed, both as a soldier and civilian. He represented the town of Leyden in our last Board of Supervisors with credit to himself and honor to his constituents, and he holds a high command in the citizen soldiery of our State. What more could a woman wish for in a husband than honors, fame, wealth, age and respectability? For our part, we hope that if Miss Kate lives to be wooed and won by a man as much younger than she, as she is younger than the General, she will not desert him so early in the delightful period of the honeymoon, as our poor old friend, the General, so cruelly finds himself at the present moment

Chicago Democrat, 25th.

Jail Fired.—A correspondent writing from Lancaster informs us that three prisoners, Harris, Cemely and Turpin, all confined in the county jail in that place, to await their trials for murder, attempted to escape on Monday night last, by setting fire to the building. The fire was however discovered and extinguished before much damage was done, or before the prisoners could make their escape.

The same correspondent informs us of the arrest of one James Douglas, charged with passing counterfeit money. On Monday he was tried before an examining court in Lancaster, and held to bail in the sum of eight hundred dollars, to answer the charge. The principal bills found in his possession were counterfeit 5's on the Southern Bank of Kentucky.

Danville (Ky.) Tribune, 28th.

Fine Stock.—On last Friday, the finest lot of stock that we have ever seen, passed through our streets on their way South Upon enquiry we learned that they were raised upon the farm of Robert Scott, of this county, and consisted of 108 Cotswold sheep, and some seven or eight fine blooded cattle, which he had sold for the southern market. They were in charge of our old friend Reuben Seabury, who informed us of the facts.

Mr. Scott is the finest farmer in our county, and unquestionably has been more successful in the raising of fine stock than any one we know of. His breed of sheep is without competition in Kentucky, both for hardiness and the texture of their wool, and we are glad to hear they are becoming appreciated.—*Frankfort Yeoman.*

Breach of Promise Settled.—A young man was arrested on a *capias*, on Friday, for a breach [of] promise. The young lady who felt herself aggrieved brought his daguerrotype to the Sheriff, in order that he might be identified. When arrested and in the Sheriff's office, she called to see him, and they very wisely concluded to settle the matter by getting married. He paid the costs, and the two went off to become one.—*Pitts. Gaz.*

Going it Blind. Three widows, who were successively appointed within the last twelve months matrons of the Blind Asylum, have been compelled to resign their positions, owing to the pressing demand of their suitors to commit matrimony. A great asylum for widows is the Blind Asylum. To prevent a rush of applicants to this desirable post, we would state there is no vacancy at present.—*Ohio State Journal.*

A Wife's Rights.—"Wife," said a married man, looking for a boot-jack, after she was in bed, "I have a place for all things, and you ought to know it by this time." "Yes," replied she, "I ought to know where you keep your late hours, but I don't."

A new postoffice has been established at Waveland, Fayette county, Ky., Henry J. Kennedy, P. M. The office at Woodstock, Pulaski county, has been discontinued.

The New York Central Railroad pays its treasurer $8,000 per annum.

Letter from Glasgow.

[Correspondence of the Louisville Courier.]

An Oratorical and Intellectual Feast—Urania College—Excellent and Interesting Speeches—Promising Young Men—A Mock Programme, etc., etc.

Glasgow, Ky., Dec. 22, 1855.

Editors Louisville Courier—Gentlemen: By suggestion of a lady friend, whose slightest wish is my only desire, I have taken up my pen to give you a hasty, and necessarily imperfect description of an oratorical and intellectual feast, given by the students of Urania College, on Tuesday and Wednesday last, at the Baptist Church in this place.

The days, happily selected for the occasion were extremely brilliant and beautiful. The sun blazed through a transparent atmosphere, and set in regal splendor beyond the western horizon, without a cloud athwart the skies. The stars, one by one, came forth, silvered by the rays of an unclouded moon—fringing the path of church-bound lovers in the soft, sweet beauty of a moonlight vision. The scene along the embowered paths, and within the consecrated walls of the church, was one eminently lovely to behold.

The church arrayed in tasteful decorations—the music chanting forth its merriest peals, and sweeping in softest cadence on the ear—the brilliant lights, in variegated colors, presenting the immense audience in a brilliancy of splendor unequalled and indescribable—the merry peals of laughter ringing in prolonged echoes and falling with eolean sweetness upon the ear—brilliant eyes, sparkling like gems upon the bosom of the sea—exquisite mouths wreathed in heavenly smiles—bright, beaming countenances, betokening more than tongue could speak, superadded to the almost perfect acting, brilliant oratory and comedy of the scene—presented to the vivid imagination a picture, that would require the observation of a Thucydides, directing the pencil of a Tacitus, to portray by a few happy touches the surpassing loveliness of the scene.

The town, and its environs, had emptied its seclusion of chivalry and beauty into the spacious [h]all of the church—excited hearts and stirring souls beat time to the music—the gay decorations of bonny belles and beauties, with lips wreathed in smiles of approval, and voices attuned to salutation, still adding to the magnificence of the scene, filled the mind with such grandeur of thought and sublimity of expression as to baffle my unassuming pen in all attempts at truthful description.

The speaking, in an eminent degree, was pleasing and instructive. No fulsome eulogies—high sounding and unmeaning phrases; no reference to our country's flag floating in its pride of place, and fanned by the genial winds of heaven, as hyfalutin and lofty thoughts, picturing the ship of state boldly breasting the billows of the sea; no tree-tops waved to the winds of heaven; no American eagle basking in the cloudy magnificence of heaven, riding upon the storm and directing the whirlwind, but the whole was a fragrant shower of elegant conception from the fountains of exuberant imaginations. The want of space precludes a lengthy review of performances or a correct criticism All did well, however, as was evinced by the loud and prolonged applause which greeted and followed each speech.

There is, nevertheless, one or two that deserve especial notice, conspicuous among which was the speech of James Jourdan, Esq. His happy and pleasant manner of delivery, his beautiful declamation and appropriate gestures, his originality of thought, uniqueness of expression, and fluency of utterance, won for him the appellation of "the best speaker."

The Valedictory, by Willis G. Thompson, Esq., was from the competent to criticise the very highest encomiums, and recalled to my mind, during its thrilling utterance, those lines—

"How unutterably sweet are the echoes that start
When memory plays an old tune on the heart."

This address was peculiarly appropriate, and replete with those sad sentiments that ever appeal directly to the heart.

The dew of Mr. Thompson's youth has been exhaled by sea for eighteen years, yet he speaks with as much fluency of utterance, grace of manner, and originality of [illegible] as if his whole life had been devoted to [illegible] of oratory.

We can [illegible] Mr. [illegible] a glorious and a brilliant career—a bright and illustrious future, if he [illegible] to mount the crest of [illegible] [illegible] day evening [illegible]

Charles Patterson, of Bowling Green, Ky., enchained his audience by his captivating style of oratory, and [illegible] thought. His youthful appearance, [illegible] clear, distinct, thrilling utterance, his graceful action, bold expressions, fiery energy and manly thoughts, struck the audience with astonishment.

Our college is in a most flourishing condition, and its destiny, like the flight of the lark, is upward and onward.

On Tuesday evening, "A Mock Programme" made its unexpected and unwelcome appearance, to the indescribable delight of some, and the great chagrin and mortification of others. It was certainly the birth-right of a satirist and a wit, written with that pungency and *apropos* of style which ever [illegible] the soul with laughter. Its place of publication, and successful distribution, are things wrapped in impenetrable darkness—none being acute enough to ferret these things out.

But my letter has already been "lengthened long," and—

"Though with you I fain would stay,
Yet cruel necessity tears me away."

REPORTER.

Europe at Peace.

Such is the caption of the leading editorial in the New York *Courier & Enquirer* of Tuesday, the 25th inst., from which we make the following extracts. It will be seen that it is stated in the most positive terms that a treaty of peace has been concluded between the belligerent powers in Europe:

We have constantly asserted, that in our judgment, there would be no spring campaign between the Allied Powers and Russia; because the position of Austria is such that she would be compelled to take part in such campaign in behalf of, or against the Western Powers. We believed, therefore, she would *compel* Russia to acquiesce in reasonable terms, but we did not suppose that the matter would be so promptly settled as it appears to have been. Our private advices by the Asia, however, remove all doubt in our minds that [illegible] conceding an immediate peace between the Western Powers and Russia have been [illegible] arranged by Austria, and accepted by Russia, and received the assent of the Emperor, [illegible] have been reluctantly acquiesced [illegible]

This is indeed important [illegible] peace; and it may be [illegible] standing the opinions [illegible] the correspondents of the A[illegible] contrary our own [illegible] be expected of us to reveal [illegible] suffice it to say, [illegible] written to us by direction [illegible] in a hasty note to us, [illegible] to write you [illegible] of the way, [illegible] the almost [illegible] strangely befogged [illegible]

I think I may venture to assure [illegible] is a strong probability of an [illegible] of the Russian war. I believe [illegible] certainly submitted propositions to France and England for its conclusion, with the [illegible] if accepted by them and rejected by Russia, will immediately put an end to [illegible] subject, and join with the Allies [illegible]

These propositions, I am assured, [illegible] Napoleon's approval, and he expressed his willingness to accede to them; and the British Government have, somewhat reluctantly, adopted his policy

These proposals stipulate,

First, to convert the Black Sea into a commercial one, as a substitute for the third of the Vienna four points—excluding forever the navies of all nations from it; and

Second, the whole course of the Danube, its mouths included, to be entirely released from Russian control.

That the Emperor of Russia will accept these propositions, can hardly be doubted. By so doing, he will preserve the honor of his realm, for he cannot successfully war with the Allies, with Austria also against him. The contest [illegible] fearfully on Russia. Her resources [illegible] money are nearly exhausted; and [illegible] may, the Russian people. [illegible] hail the return of peace [illegible] Eight. Should peace be [illegible] ston's resignation of the [illegible] and in that case, an im[illegible] existing questions of [illegible] States and this country, would probably [illegible] cordial relations then be restored among the [illegible] ing nations of the earth.

A Kentucky Cadet [illegible] Lieutenant.—Mr. John Ellwood, [illegible] Kentucky Military Institute, [illegible] and a resident graduate during [illegible] year, has received the appointment of [illegible] tenant in the Russian army, [illegible] Russian Minister at Washington, and sailed from New York on Monday last, on his way to [illegible], where he is to await orders from St. Petersburgh. Mr. Ellwood is a native of Pennsylvania, but has been in Kentucky for seven or eight years past. He is a young man of very fine talents and extraordinary energy, and, if he [illegible] scarcel, will be very apt to make [illegible] world. He has already seen [illegible] to him no mere creature [illegible] Though but a stripling, he served with [illegible] tion in Harney's regiment through the Mexican war, and then returned home to pursue the studies which would prepare him to be a scientific soldier, as well as a brave one.

Commonwealth.

House Blown up in Co[lumbus].—[illegible] o'clock on the afternoon of [illegible] the South side of Friend street, [illegible] Sixth streets, Columbus, [illegible] pieces with gunpowder. The [illegible] becoming ignited was [illegible] mant. The store was used [illegible] lived out of town. No lives [illegible] damage to property is estimated [illegible] 000 and 2,000.—*Cin. C[om.]*

Hon. Daniel Jenifer, ex-member of Congress and Minister to Austria, under Gen. Harrison, died on Tuesday, at [illegible]

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WEEKLY COURIER
SATURDAY JANUARY 5, 1856.

Notice!

All papers are invariably discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for. The very low price of the paper compels us to make this rule imperative.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.—We are always glad to hear from our friends, and will be thankful for occasional letters from all parts of the State and the great Mississippi Valley, containing important news, local gossip, &c.

☞ Persons ordering their papers changed, are requested to name the Postoffice where it is received as well as the one to which it is to be sent.

☞ Subscribers can remit postage stamps when convenient. By sending them they will have no difficulty in making change for the fractional parts of a dollar.

The New Year.

First of all, the "compliments of the season" and a "happy new year" to the readers of the *Courier*. In thus presenting our annual salutation we feel that we have more reason for so doing—more sincerity in its utterance—and that it will be received with a greater degree of appreciation than is its wont.

What does the retrospect of the year just drawn to a close afford us? There are, it is true, sad memories which we must confront; families have had their sorrows and individuals their misfortunes. But beneficent Heaven has distinguished our land with innumerable blessings. Never, indeed, as in the year just closed, has our country been so prominently before the world in contrast with other nations. While the three great nations of the eastern hemisphere are waging a deadly war, carrying destruction in the paths of their armies, shrouding homes in mourning, and producing that long series of ineradicable evils which war invariably brings in its train, peace, blessed peace, has been our favored lot. Errors and haste in diplomacy may have temporarily threatened us with a disturbance of pacific relations; but the danger has only been temporary. We are, as a nation, at peace, both at home and abroad. Our beneficent institutions still preserve us in the enjoyment of that great truth of freedom asserted by our forefathers. Thus it is that the new year finds us a grateful people, enjoying the rarest of political happiness.

But upon this, the outset of a new cycle of time, how will our homes and hearts bear scrutiny? [illegible] prosperity has crowned all agricultural and commercial undertakings. The harvests have been more than usually bounteous, and domestic comfort has been within the grasp of all. We are happy to-day. Why should we not be so? Already the glory of the old gilds the new year. The momentary sadness of yesterday's parting is relieved by the gladness of the greeting of to-day. Eighteen hundred and fifty-six (1856—see how it looks figuratively), is a welcome substitute for its predecessor. We all hail it with hosannas! To-day there are family feuds to be buried, personal enmities forgotten, interrupted friendships renewed, new ones commenced, and old ones cemented, compliments and good wishes exchanged, and happiness and joy universally enthroned. So may it be in the heart and home of every reader! May it be to each and all a happy day—a day of that true happiness which makes the heart light and the step buoyant, and the eye bright and calm, and the brow unfurrowed and the voice clear and strong, and the laugh musical and gushing, as though welling up from a deep, overflowing fountain of purity and joy! Such is our wish for every reader of the *Courier*—

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Horse Flesh for Food.

The French are adding to their dietetic regimen by introducing new articles of food. One of their latest gastronomic innovations is in the use of horse flesh. It is only a few months since no less a person than M. St. Hilaire, Professor of Zoology at the Garden of Plants threw the weight of his authority on the side of this aliment, not as a *dernier resort* for a famishing people, but as a wholesome and savory meat, deserving to [illegible] with the choicer commodities of the butcher's stall. The editor of the *Union Medicale* gives an amusing account of a dinner to which he was invited the other day by M. Renault, Director of the great Veterinary School at Alfort. The object proposed was a comparative test of the qualities of beef and horse flesh served up in three standard forms in which they are employed by the French people. 1st. *Bouillon*, (water containing the juices of meat that has been boiled in it, much used by the French as soup.) 2d. *Bouilli*, (the meat thus boiled, and which is invariably the second dish served up at the *table d'hote*.) 3d. *Roti*, (roast.) The horse flesh served on the present occasion was from an animal, which, after 23 years of faithful service, had had the misfortune to be attacked with paralysis of the posterior limbs. He was, however, fat, and exempt from any other signs of disease. Thus far the conditions were not the most favorable; a younger animal would have promised better results. The *bouillon* was declared excellent—rich, savory, and aromatic; the *bouilli* not so good, but on the whole quite eatable; the *roti* occasioned an "explosion" of satisfaction. Nothing could be finer, more delicate or tender; and the *filet* ranked with "les viandes deluxe les plus recherchees." The editor of the *Union Medicale* waited in good faith twenty-four hours before writing a line, that he might be able to declare that he wrote without the slightest "remorse of digestion." His conclusion is that a horse of twenty-three years old may furnish "a superior *bouillon*, a good and very eatable *bouilli*, an exquisite *roti*, and a delectable *filet*."

Another Horrible Murder.

About 8 o'clock Tuesday evening Egelbert Weber, a German shoemaker, who worked for George Heitser, on Jefferson street, near First was walking on Jefferson street, between Jackson and Hancock, when he was seized around the waist by Verdiman Morris, and ordered to hallo. Not doing so he was knocked down, and as he got up and attempted to run away he was shot in the back by Morris, who fired four times at him, only one shot, however, taking effect. Weber ran into the house of Mr Paul Ena, and exclaiming "I am shot," fell and died in less than five minutes.

Morris made his escape and has not yet been arrested. Albert Smithberger, who was with Weber, and whom Morris also attempted to shoot, was arrested. Weber is represented as having been a remarkably sober, steady, industrious and inoffensive man.

Coroner White held an inquest over his body, and a verdict in accordance with the above facts was rendered.

Weber has a brother living in Cincinnati, and one in Lafayette. He was about 21 years of age.

This is another of the legitimate fruits of Know-Nothingism. Morris is one of those who have been teaching that it is in the highest degree commendable to knock down and maltreat foreigners whenever and wherever found, and that it's no crime to kill them when a good opportunity offers itself.

He has now been carrying out in practice these teachings, and probably presuming on his relationship with Hon. Humphrey Marshall, and, relying on the protection of his K. N. companions to shield him from punishment, has imbrued his hands in innocent blood.

He is yet at large, and as he is well known, it becomes the police in that part of the city to show how he was permitted to effect his escape. If our authorities are not utterly demoralized, they will see that the most prompt and efficient measures are taken for his arrest.

THE GREAT CENTRAL SEA IN TROPICAL AFRICA.—In the Calwer *Missionsblatt* we find, with some letters from Dr. Redman, dated the 13th and 30th of April, a map which is communicated by the learned missionary. On this map, between the Equator and ten degrees of south latitude, and between the twenty-third and thirtieth meridian, lies an immense sea, without any outlet, twice as large as the Black Sea, including the Sea of Azof. It is designated Ukerewe, or Inner Sea, and the well-known Njassa Sea appears as a small bay on the south-east. Dr. Redman refers to a map in detail which his companion, Dr. Erhardt, is bringing to Europe. This great discovery, the consequences of which can hardly be estimated, has rested hitherto on the testimony of the natives of both shores of the Inner Sea with whom the missionaries came in contact. Dr A. Peterman remarks, in a letter to the *Athenæum*, that the African geographer, Mr. Cooley, argued long ago for the existence of a single great sea in the centre of Equatorial Africa, and this opinion was prevented from becoming general only by the obstinate opposition of the missionaries of Eastern Africa, who now confess their error.

Kentucky Legislature.

In another column will be found the letters of our reporter and correspondent at Frankfort, detailing what was done at the Capital yesterday. It will be observed that the Know-Nothing caucus nominees for officers, in both houses, were elected by decisive majorities.

Major Thomas Helm, of Glasgow, who for nearly the last quarter of a century has been Clerk of the House of Representatives, and who has no superior as an officer, living, was refused a re-election to that post. Major Helm always has been and still is a true and gallant old-line Whig. He did not feel it his duty to attach himself to the new party, but at the last election, as we hear, voted for all the Whigs on the Know-Nothing ticket. The only objection that could be urged against him was that he was a Whig, and stranger to say, he was most violently opposed in caucus by Col. Whitely one of the editors of the *Journal*, a paper that pretended a short time since to such a holy reverence for Whiggery. The K. N's will hardly, after this demonstration, have the audacity to ask support from old-line Whigs.

Russia a Check on England.

In the "Correspondence of Henry Clay," recently published, is a letter from James Madison to Mr. Clay, under the date of October 30, 1815, which shows that, before there was any apprehension of an Anglo-Russian war, or any expectation of an Anglo-French "offensive and defensive alliance," it was the opinion of some of our leading statesmen that a good understanding should be cultivated with the Czar, as a check upon England. Mr. Madison says:

> Since the overthrow of France, Russia has acquired the highest degree of political importance in relation to these States. As a great power, friendly to a liberal system of neutral rights, and with whose dominions our commerce had become considerable, she held, before that event, a distinguished rank, but by it her weight in the general scale has been much augmented. Russia forms, in effect, at this time, the principal check on the overgrown power of England, on which account, and many others, it is immensely the interest of these States to cultivate a good understanding with her sovereign.

Governor's Message.

We lay this document before our readers this morning. It is in the main a sensible, well-written document, and will be favorably received. The Governor alludes only slightly to political questions, and in the latter portion of the message he acknowledges that Know-Nothingism is a failure, and that as a party it is done for. His allusions in the concluding portion of the message, to the new party that placed him in power, are quite significant, and we direct attention to them.

The Cold Term.

Although we have had pretty cold weather here recently, it was'nt a "patching" to what they had farther North. At St. Louis it was eight degrees below zero; at Dubuque, Iowa, ten degrees below; at La Salle, Ill., fourteen below; at Peoria, Ill., nine below. At St. Louis, the mails and large numbers of passengers on each side of the river, had been detained, being unable to cross in consequence of the heavy masses of running ice.

The President's Message.

We received the first copy of this document by Adams & Co's Express, about 10 o'clock last night, and in a few minutes our strong team of compositors were at work on it, and soon had it in type and ready for the press and the early mails.

THE LAST WORDS OF A KNOW-NOTHING.—The Wabash (Ia.) *Gazette* gives a vivid description of the last moments and execution of John Hubbard, who was executed on the 19th ult, for one of the most atrocious wholesale murders that has blackened the criminal records of our country. When leaving the prison for the scaffold he used these words to express his religious and political sentiments:

"In my death the Know-Nothings will lose a friend, and the Pope of Rome an enemy."

HON JOHN M. CLAYTON.—The *National Intelligencer* learns, from an authentic source, that application has been made by gentlemen elected as delegates to the American convention, to be held in Philadelphia in February next, to the Hon. John M. Clayton, asking the use of his name as a candidate for the Presidency at that convention, and that he replied that he preferred his present position, as a Senator of the United States, to any other public station, and declined being a candidate for the Presidential office.

QUALIFIED DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES.—The President having refused to recognize Walker's Nicaraguan Government the Attorney General has decided that the only diplomatic privilege accorded to Col. French is of mere transit, and of courtesy, not full right; and that courtesy will be withdrawn from him as soon as there shall be cause to believe that he is engaged in here, or contemplates, any act not consonant with the laws, the peace or the public honor of the United State.

DEATH OF A MISSIONARY.—It is stated that information has arrived announcing the death at Beirout, of cholera, of Rev. Mr. Whiting, Missionary of the American Board, who has been laboring in that country some twenty-five years.

☞ Quite a sharp contest appears to be going on in the election of delegates in New York to the K. N. National Convention. Thus far the friends of George Law have generally been successful over those of Fillmore.

☞ Clifton, aged thirteen, son of Walter Rodes, Esq., Sheriff of Fayette co., died at Lexington, on Saturday last, from the effects of an accidental shot received on the Wednesday previous, while hunting rabbits.

☞ Hurley's Sarsaparilla has not only butted the "Bull" off the bridge, but annihilated all other compounds of the present day. The afflicted will do well to give it a trial, and we are assured they will thank us for the advice.

DELAYED.—The Lafayette (Ind.) *Journal* says that all the railroad trains in that section have been delayed by the recent excessively cold weather.

☞ The Pequonnock Hotel, at East Bridgeport, Conn., was destroyed by fire on Thursday morning last. Loss $15,000. Insured for $10,000.

☞ "Live Oak Clubs" are being formed by the politicians of New York. They are designed to promote the claims of George Law for the Presidency.

☞ A flat boat, loaded with 400 bbls. of corn, belonging to Martini & Peniston, of Port Royal, was sunk and lost in the Kentucky river, near Lockport, a few days since.

☞ On Thursday night last many miles of telegraph wire were prostrated by a heavy storm of rain and sleet.

☞ Since the closing of navigation in the Mississippi by the ice, the passenger trains between St. Louis and Vincennes have been crowded.

THE RIVER was falling yesterday, with seven feet water in the canal last evening, by the mark, and four feet water on the falls for steamboats. During the previous 48 hours the river had receded eleven inches. The weather was quite moderate yesterday, with indications of snow or rain last night.

The Democracy Stand Firm.

The Democratic phalanx in the House of Representatives stands firm and fast. There is no wavering. On Friday evening another caucus was called, and was attended by a majority of the Democratic members, and there, after a full and harmonious interchange of opinions, they unanimously decided as follows:

"Resolved, That we will adhere to our platform and our nominee."

This is the sentiment of the Democracy of the Union. Everywhere the firm and united action of the Democrats is applauded, and the slightest faltering now would mortify the noblest party that ever existed in any country. Let the answer be to all proposals from our opponents that of Paul Jones in one of his conflicts, when asked if he had surrendered; and truly may we use his words in view of the great issues and contests upon which we are only entering: "Surrender!" said the hero; "Never! *The battle has only begun!*"—*Washington Union.*

"KEEP AWAY FROM NEW ORLEANS."—The New York Tribune learns from a correspondent at New Orleans that there is a prodigious influx of young men—clerks—who can find nothing to do. For example, an advertisement for a clerk brought, in less than a day, five hundred and seventy-one applicants. Under these circumstances, the Tribune advises young commercial men to keep away from New Orleans, as the market is overstocked.

OFFICIAL.—Appointment by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate—Samuel O. Ballard, Surveyor of the Customs at Memphis, Tennessee, vice Edward Dashiell, removed.

President's Message.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

The constitution of the United States provides that Congress shall assemble annually on the first Monday of December, and it has been usual for the President to make no communication of a public character to the Senate and House of Representatives until advised of their readiness to receive it. I have deferred to this usage until the close of the first month of the session, but my conviction of duty will not permit me longer to postpone the discharge of the obligation enjoined by the constitution upon the President "to give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient."

It is a matter of congratulation that the Republic is tranquilly advancing in a career of prosperity and peace.

FOREIGN RELATIONS—CENTRAL AMERICA.

Whilst relations of amity continue to exist between the United States and all foreign powers, with some of them grave questions are depending which may require the consideration of Congress.

Of such questions, the most important is that which has arisen out of the negotiations with Great Britain in regard to Central America.

By the convention concluded between the two governments on the 19th of April, 1850, both parties covenanted that "neither will ever" occupy, or fortify, or colonize, or assume, or exercise any dominion over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito coast, or any part of Central America.

It was the undoubted understanding of the United States, in making this treaty, that all the present States of the former republic of Central America, and the entire territory of each, would henceforth enjoy complete independence; and that both contracting parties engaged equally, and to the same extent, for the present and for the future; that if either then had any claim of right in Central America, such claim, and all occupation and authority under it, were unreservedly relinquished by the stipulations of the convention; and that no dominion was hereafter to be exercised or assumed in any part of Central America by Great Britain or the United States.

This government consented to restrictions in regard to a region of country, wherein we had specific and peculiar interests, only upon the conviction that the like restrictions were in the same sense obligatory on Great Britain. But for this understanding of the force and effect of the convention, it would never have been concluded by us.

So clear was the understanding on the part of the United States, that in correspondence contemporaneous with the ratification of the convention, it was distinctly expressed, that the mutual covenants of non-occupation were not intended to apply to the British establishment at the Balize. This qualification is to be ascribed to the fact that, in virtue of successive treaties with previous sovereigns of the country, Great Britain had obtained a concession of the right to cut mahogany or dyewoods at the Balize, but with positive exclusion of all domain or sovereignty; and thus it confirms the natural construction and understood import of the treaty as to the rest of the region to which the stipulations applied.

It, however, became apparent, at an early day after entering upon the discharge of my present functions, that Great Britain still continued in the exercise or assertion of large authority in all that part of Central America commonly called the Mosquito coast, and covering the entire length of the State of Nicaragua, and a part of Costa Rica; that she regarded the Balize as her absolute domain, and was gradually extending its limits at the expense of the State of Honduras; and that she had formally colonized a considerable insular group known as the Bay Islands, and belonging, of right, to that State.

All these acts or pretensions of Great Britain being contrary to the rights of the States of Central America, and to the manifest tenor of her stipulations with the United States, as understood by this government, have been made the subject of negotiation through the American Minister in London. I transmit herewith the instructions to him on the subject, and the correspondence between him and the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, by which you will perceive that the two governments differ widely and irreconcileably as to the construction of the convention, and its effect on their respective relations to Central America.

Great Britain so construes the convention, as to maintain unchanged all her previous pretensions over the Mosquito coast, and in different parts of Central America. These pretensions as to the Mosquito coast, are founded on the assumption of political relation between Great Britain and the remnant of a tribe of Indians on that coast, entered into at a time when the whole country was a colonial possession of Spain. It cannot be successfully controverted, that, by the public law of Europe and America, no possible act of such Indians or their predecessors could confer on Great Britain any political rights.

Great Britain does not allege the assent of Spain as the origin of her claims on the Mosquito coast. She has, on the contrary, by repeated and successive treaties, renounced and relinquished all pretentions of her own, and recognized the full and sovereign rights of Spain in the most unequivocal terms. Yet these pretentions, so without solid foundation in the beginning, and thus repeatedly abjured, were, at a recent period, revived by Great Britain, against the Central American States, the legitimate successors to all the ancient jurisdiction of Spain in that region. They were first applied only to a defined part of the coast of Nicaragua, afterwards to the whole of its Atlantic coast, and lastly to a part of the coast of Costa Rica; and they are now re-asserted to this extent, notwithstanding engagements to the United States.

On the eastern coast of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the interference of Great Britain, though exerted at one time in the form of military occupation of the port of San Juan del Norte, then in the peaceful possession of the appropriate authorities of the Central American States, is now presented by her as the rightful exercise of a protectorship over the Musquito tribe of Indians.

But the establishment at the Balize, now reaching beyond its treaty limits into the State of Honduras, and that of the Bay Islands appertaining of right to the same State, are as distinctly colonial governments as those of Jamaica or Canada, and therefore contrary to the very letter and the spirit of the convention with the United States, as it was at the time of ratification, and now is, understood by this government.

The interpretation which the British government thus, in assertion and act, persists in ascribing to the convention, entirely changes its character. While it holds us to our obligations, it in a great measure releases Great Britain from those which constituted the consideration of this Government for entering into the convention. It is impossible, in my judgment, for the United States to acquiesce in such a construction of the respective relations of the two Governments to Central America.

To a renewed call by this government upon Great Britain, to abide by, and carry into effect, the stipulations of the convention according to its obvious import, by withdrawing from the possession or colonization of portions of the Central American States of Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, the British government has at length replied, affirming that the operation of the treaty is prospective only, and did not require Great Britain to abandon or contract any possessions held by her in Central America at the date of its conclusion.

The reply substitutes a partial issue, in the place of the general one presented by the United States. The British government passes over the question of the rights of Great Britain, real or supposed, in Central America, and assumes that she had such rights at the date of the treaty, and that those rights comprehended the protectorship of the Mosquito Indians, the extended jurisdiction and limits of the Balize, and the colony of the Bay Islands, and thereupon proceeds by implication to infer, that, if the stipulations of the treaty be merely future in effect, Great Britain may still continue to hold the contested portions of Central America. The United States cannot admit either the inference or the premises. We steadily deny, that, at the date of the treaty, Great Britain had any possessions there, other than the limited and peculiar establishment at the Balize, and maintain that, if she had any, they were surrendered by the convention.

This government, recognizing the obligations of the treaty, has of course desired to see it executed in good faith by both parties, and in the discussion, therefore, has not looked to rights, which we might assert, independently of the treaty, in consideration of our geographical position and of other circumstances, which create for us relations to the Central American States, different from those of any government of Europe.

The British government, in its last communication, although well knowing the views of the United States, still declares that it sees no reason why a conciliatory spirit may not enable the two governments to overcome all obstacles to a satisfactory adjustment of the subject.

Assured of the correctness of the construction of the treaty constantly adhered to by this government, and resolved to insist on the rights of the United States, yet actuated also by the same desire, which is owned by the British Government, to remove all causes of serious misunderstanding between two nations associated by so many ties of interest and kindred, it has appeared to me proper not to consider an amicable solution of the controversy hopeless.

There is, however, reason to apprehend, that with Great Britain in actual occupation of the disputed territories, and the treaty therefore practically null, so far as regards our rights, this international difficulty cannot long remain undetermined, without involving in serious danger the friendly relations, which it is the interest as well as the duty of countries to cherish and preserve. It will afford me sincere gratification, if future efforts shall result in the success, anticipated heretofore with more confidence than the aspect of the case permits me now to entertain.

RECRUITMENT.

One other subject of discussion between the United States and Great Britain has grown out of the attempt, which the exigencies of the war in which she is engaged with Russia induced her to make, to draw recruits from the United States.

It is the traditional and settled policy of the United States to maintain impartial neutrality during the wars, which from time to time occur among the great powers of the world. Performing all the duties of neutrality towards the respective belligerent States, we may reasonably expect them not to interfere with our lawful enjoyment of its benefits. Notwithstanding the existence of such hostilities, our citizens retain the individual right to continue all their accustomed pursuits, by land or by sea, at home or abroad, subject only to such restrictions in this relation, as the laws of war, the usage of nations, or special treaties may impose, and it is our sovereign right that our territory and jurisdiction shall not be invaded by either of the belligerent parties, for the transit of their armies, the operations of their fleets, the levy of troops for their service, the fitting out of cruisers by or against either, or any other act or incident of war. And these undeniable rights of neutrality, individual and national, the United States will under no circumstances surrender.

In pursuance of this policy, the laws of the United States do not forbid their citizens to sell to either of the belligerent powers articles, contraband of war, or to take munitions of war or soldiers on board their private ships for transportation; and although, in so doing, the individual citizen exposes his property or person to some of the hazards of war, his acts do not involve any breach of national neutrality, nor of themselves implicate the government. Thus, during the progress of the present war in Europe, our citizens have, without national responsibility therefor, sold gunpowder and arms to all buyers, regardless of the destination of those articles. Our merchantmen have been, and still continue to be, largely employed by Great Britain and by France in transporting troops, provisions and munitions of war to the principal seat of military operations, and in bringing home their sick and wounded soldiers; but such use of our mercantile marine is not interdicted either by the international, or by our municipal law, and therefore does not compromise our neutral relations with Russia.

But our municipal law, in accordance with the law of nations, peremptorily forbids, not only foreigners, but our own citizens, to fit out, within the limits of the United States, a vessel to commit hostilities against any State with which the United States are at peace, or to increase the force of any armed vessel intended for such hostilities against a friendly State.

Whatever concern may have been felt by either of the belligerent powers lest private armed cruisers or other vessels, in the service of one might be fitted out in the ports of this country to depredate on the property of the other, all such fears have proved to be utterly groundless. Our citizens have been withheld from any such act or purpose by good faith and by respect for the law.

While the laws of the Union are thus peremptory in their prohibition of the equipment or armament of belligerent cruisers in our ports, they provide not less absolutely that no person shall, within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, enlist or enter himself, or hire or retain another person to enlist or enter himself, or to go beyond the limits or jurisdiction of the United States, with intent to be enlisted or entered, in the service of any foreign State, either as a soldier, or as a mariner or seaman on board of any vessel-of-war, letter of marque, or privateer. And these enactments are in strict conformity with the law of nations, which declares that no State has the right to raise troops for land or sea service, in another State, without its consent, and that whether forbidden by the municipal law or not, the very attempt to do it, without such consent, is an attack on the national sovereignty.

Such being the public rights and the municipal law of the United States, no solicitude on the subject was entertained by this government, when a year since, the British Parliament passed an act to provide for the enlistment of foreigners in the military service of Great Britain. Nothing on the face of the act, or in its public history, indicated that the British government proposed to attempt recruiting in the United States; nor did it ever give intimation of such intention to this government. It was a matter of surprise, therefore, to find, subsequently, that the engagement of persons within the United States to proceed to Halifax, in the British province of Nova Scotia, and there enlist in the service of Great Britain, was going on extensively, with little or no disguise. Ordinary legal steps were immediately taken to arrest and punish parties concerned, and to put an end to acts infringing the municipal law and derogatory to our sovereignty. Meanwhile suitable representations on the subject were addressed to the British government.

Thereupon it became known, by the admission of the British government itself, that the attempt to draw recruits from this country originated with it, or at least had its approval and sanction; but it also appeared that the public agents engaged in it had "stringent instructions" not to violate the municipal law of the United States.

It is difficult to understand how it should have been supposed that troops could be raised here by Great Britain, without violation of the municipal law. The unmistakable object of the law was to prevent every such act, which, if performed, must be either in violation of the law, or in studied evasion of it; and, in either alternative, the act done would be alike injurious to the sovereignty of the United States.

In the meantime, the matter acquired additional importance, by the recruitments in the United States not being discontinued, and the disclosure of the fact that they were presented upon a systematic plan devised by official authority; that recruiting rendezvous had been opened in our principal cities, and depots for the reception of recruits established on our frontier; and the whole business conducted under the supervision and by the regular co-operation of British officers, civil and military; some in the North American provinces and some in the United States. The complicity of those officers in an undertaking which could only be accomplished by defying our laws, throwing suspicion over our attitude of neutrality, and disregarding our territorial rights, is conclusively proved by the evidence elicited on the trial of such of their agents as have been apprehended and convicted. Some of the officers thus implicated are of high official position, and many of them beyond our jurisdiction, so that legal proceedings could not reach the source of the mischief.

These considerations and the fact that the cause of complaint was not a mere casual occurrence, but a deliberate design, entered upon with full knowledge of our laws and national policy, and conducted by responsible public functionaries, impelled me to present the case to the British government, in order to secure not only a cessation of the wrong, but its reparation. The subject is still under discussion, the result of which will be communicated to you in due time.

BRITISH RELATIONS—CONTINUED.

I repeat the recommendation submitted to the last Congress, that provision be made for the appointment of a commissioner in connexion with Great Britain, to survey and establish the boundary line which divides the Territory of Washington from the contiguous British possessions.

By reason of the extent and importance of the country in dispute, there has been imminent danger of collision between the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that quarter. The prospect of a speedy arrangement has contributed hitherto to induce on both sides forbearance to assert by force what each claims as a right. Continuance of delay on the part of the two governments to action in the matter will increase the dangers and difficulties of the controversy.

Misunderstanding exists as to the extent, character, and value of the possessory rights of the Hudson's Bay Company, and the property of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company reserved in our treaty with Great Britain relative to the Territory of Oregon. I have reason to believe that a cession of the rights of both companies to the United States, which would be the readiest means of terminating all questions, can be obtained on reasonable terms; and with a view to this end, I present the subject to the attention of Congress.

The colony of Newfoundland, having enacted the laws required by the treaty of the 5th of June, 1854, is now placed on the same footing, in respect to commercial intercourse with the United States as the other British North American provinces.

The commission, which that treaty contemplated, for determining the rights of fishery in rivers and mouths of rivers on the coasts of the United States and the British North American provinces, has been organized and has commenced its labors; to complete which there is needed further appropriation for the service of another season.

SOUND DUES.

In pursuance of the authority, conferred by a resolution of the Senate of the United States, passed on the 3d of March last, notice was given to Denmark, on the 14th day of April, of the intention of this Government to avail itself of the stipulation of the subsisting convention of friendship, commerce, and navigation between that kingdom and the United States, whereby either party might, after ten years, terminate the same at the expiration of one year from the date of notice for that purpose.

The considerations, which led me to call the attention of Congress to that convention, and induced the Senate to adopt the resolution referred to, still continue in full force. The convention contains an article, which, although it does not directly engage the United States to submit to the imposition of tolls on the vessels and cargoes of Americans passing into or from the Baltic sea, during the continuance of the treaty, yet may, by possibility, be construed as implying such submission. The exaction of those tolls not being justified by any principle of international law, it becomes the right and the duty of the United States to relieve themselves from the implication of engagement on the subject, so as to be perfectly free to act in the premises in such a way as their public interest and honor shall demand.

I remain of the opinion that the United States ought not to submit to the payment of Sound dues, not so much because of the amount, which is a secondary matter, but because it is in effect the recognition of the right of Denmark to treat one of the great maritime highways of nations as a close sea and the navigation of it as a privilege for which tribute may be imposed upon those who may have occasion to use it.

This government, on a former occasion not unlike the present, signalized its determination to maintain the freedom of the seas, and of the great natural channels of navigation. The Barbary States had, for a long time, coerced the payment of tribute from all nations whose ships frequented the Mediterranean. To the last demand of such payment made by them, the United States, although suffering less by their depredations than many other nations, returned the explicit answer, that we preferred war to tribute, and thus opened the way to the relief of the commerce of the world from an ignominious tax, so long submitted to by the far more powerful nations of Europe.

If the manner of payment of the Sound dues differ from that of the tribute formerly conceded to the Barbary States, still their exaction by Denmark has no better foundation in right. Each was in its origin nothing but a tax on a common natural right, extorted by those, who were at that time, able to obstruct the free and secure enjoyment of it, but who no longer possess that power.

Denmark, while resisting our assertion of the freedom of the Baltic Sound and Belts, has indicated a readiness to make some new arrangement on the subject, and has invited the governments interested, including the United States, to be represented in a convention to assemble for the purpose of receiving and considering a proposition, which she intends to submit, for the capitalization of the Sound dues, and the distribution of the sum to be paid as commutation among the governments, according to the respective proportions of their maritime commerce to and from the Baltic.

I have declined in behalf of the United States to accept this invitation, for the most cogent reasons. One is, that Denmark does not offer to submit to the convention the question of her right to levy the Sound dues. A second is, that if the convention were allowed to take cognizance of that particular question, still it would not be competent to deal with the great international principle involved which affects the right in other cases of navigation and commercial freedom, as well as that of access to the Baltic. Above all, by the express terms of the proposition, it is contemplated that the consideration of the Sound dues shall be commingled with, and made subordinate to, a matter wholly extraneous—the balance of power among the governments of Europe.

While, however, rejecting this proposition, and insisting on the right of free transit into and from the Baltic, I have expressed to Denmark a willingness, on the part of the United States, to share liberally with other powers in compensating her for any advantages which commerce shall hereafter derive from expenditures made by her for the improvement and safety of the navigation of the Sound or Belts.

I lay before you, herewith, sundry documents on the subject, in which my views are more fully disclosed. Should no satisfactory arrangement be soon concluded, I shall again call your attention to the subject, with a recommendation of such measures as may appear to be required in order to assert and secure the rights of the United States, so far as they are affected by the pretensions of Denmark.

FRANCE.

I announce, with much gratification, that, since the adjournment of Congress, the question, then existing between this government and that of France, respecting the French consul at San Francisco, has been satisfactorily determined, and that the relations of the two governments continue to be of the most friendly nature.

GREECE.

A question, also, which has been pending for several years between the United States and the kingdom of Greece, growing out of the sequestration, by public authorities of that country, of property belonging to the present American Consul at Athens, and which had been the subject of very earnest discussion heretofore, has recently been settled to the satisfaction of the party interested and of both governments.

SPAIN.

With Spain peaceful relations are still maintained, and some progress has been made in securing the redress of wrongs complained of by this government. Spain has not only disavowed and disapproved the conduct of the officers who illegally seized and detained the steamer Black Warrior at Havana, but has also paid the sum claimed as indemnity for the loss thereby inflicted on citizens of the United States.

In consequence of a destructive hurricane, which visited Cuba in 1844, the supreme authority of that island issued a decree, permitting the importation, for the period of six months, of certain building materials and provisions, free of duty, but revoked it when about half the period only had elapsed, to the injury of citizens of the United States, who had proceeded to act on the faith of that decree. The Spanish government refused indemnification to the parties aggrieved until recently, when it was assented to, payment being promised to be made so soon as the amount due can be ascertained.

Satisfaction claimed for the arrest and search of the steamer El Dorado, has not yet been accorded, but there is reason to believe that it will be, and that case, with others, continues to be urged on the attention of the Spanish government. I do not abandon the hope of concluding with Spain some general arrangement, which, if it do not wholly prevent the recurrence of difficulties in Cuba, will render them less frequent, and whenever they shall occur facilitate their more speedy settlement.

MEXICO.

The interposition of this government has been invoked by many of its citizens, on account of injuries done to their persons and property, for which the Mexican republic is responsible. The unhappy situation of that country, for some time past, has not allowed its government to give due consideration to claims of private reparation, and has appeared to call for and justify some forbearance in such matters on the part of this government. But, if the revolutionary movements, which have lately occurred in that republic, end in the organization of a stable government, urgent appeals to its justice will then be hoped, with success, for the redress of all complaints of our citizens.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

In regard to the American republics, which, from their proximity and other considerations, have peculiar relations to this government, while it has been my constant aim strictly to observe all the obligations of political friendship and of good neighborhood, obstacles to this have arisen in some of them, from their own insufficient power to check lawless eruptions, which in effect throws most of the task on the United States. Thus it is that the distracted internal condition of the State of Nicaragua has made it incumbent on me to appeal to the good faith of our citizens to abstain from unlawful intervention in its affairs, and to adopt preventive measures to the same end, which, on a similar occasion, had the best results in reassuring the peace of the Mexican States of Sonora and Lower California.

TREATIES.

Since the last session of Congress a treaty of amity, commerce and navigation, and for the surrender of fugitive criminals, with the kingdom of the Two Sicilies; a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation with Nicaragua; and a convention of commercial reciprocity with the Hawaiian kingdom, have been negotiated. The latter kingdom and the State of Nicaragua have also acceded to a declaration, recognizing as international rights the principles contained in the convention between the United States and Russia of the 22d of July, 1854. These treaties and conventions will be laid before the Senate for ratification.

TREASURY.

The statements made in my last annual message, respecting the anticipated receipts and expenditures of the Treasury, have been substantially verified.

It appears from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, that the receipts during the last fiscal year, ending June 30, 1855, from all sources, were sixty-five million three thousand nine hundred and thirty dollars; and that the public expenditure for the same period, exclusive of payments on account of the public debt, amounted to fifty-six million three hundred and sixty-five thousand three hundred and ninety-three dollars. During the same period the payments made in redemption of the public debt, including interest and premium, amounted to nine million eight hundred and forty-four thousand five hundred and twenty-eight dollars.

The balance in the Treasury at the beginning of the present fiscal year, July 1, 1855, was eighteen million nine hundred and thirty-one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six dollars; the receipts for the first quarter, and the estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters, amount, together, to sixty-seven million nine hundred and eighteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-four dollars; thus affording in all, as the available resources of the current fiscal year, the sum of eighty-six million eight hundred and fifty-six thousand seven hundred and ten dollars.

If, to the actual expenditures of the first quarter of the current fiscal year, be added the probable expenditures for the remaining three quarters, as estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury, the sum total will be seventy-one million two hundred and twenty-six thousand eight hundred and forty-six dollars, thereby leaving an estimated balance in the treasury on July 1, 1856, of fifteen million six hundred and twenty-three thousand eight hundred and sixty-three dollars and forty-one cents.

In the above estimated expenditures of the present fiscal year are included three million dollars to meet the last installment of the ten millions provided for in the late treaty with Mexico, and seven million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars appropriated on account of the debt due to Texas, which two sums make an aggregate amount of ten million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars and reduce the expenditures, actual or estimated, for ordinary objects of the year, to the sum of sixty million four hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars.

The amount of the public debt, at the commencement of the present fiscal year, was forty million five hundred and eighty-three thousand six hundred and thirty-one dollars, and, deduction being made of subsequent payments, the whole public debt of the federal government remaining at this time is less than forty million dollars.

The remnant of certain other government stocks, amounting to two hundred and forty-three thousand dollars, referred to in my last message as outstanding, has since been paid.

I am fully persuaded that it would be difficult to devise a system superior to that, by which the fiscal business is now conducted. Notwithstanding the great number of public agents of collection and disbursement, it is believed that the checks and guards provided, including the requirement of monthly returns, render it scarcely possible for any considerable fraud on the part of those agents, or neglect, involving hazard of serious public loss, to escape detection. I renew, however, the recommendation, heretofore made by me, of the enactment of a law declaring it felony on the part of public officers to insert false entries in their books of record or account, or to make false returns, and also requiring them on the termination of their services, to deliver to their successors all books, records, and other objects of public nature in their custody.

Derived as public revenue is, in chief part, from duties on imports, its magnitude affords a gratifying evidence of the prosperity, not only of our commerce, but of the other great interests upon which that depends.

The principle that all moneys not required for the current expenses of the government should remain for active employment in the hands of the people, and the conspicuous fact that the annual revenue from all sources exceeds, by many millions of dollars, the amount needed for a prudent and economical administration of our public affairs, cannot fail to suggest the propriety of an early revision and reduction of the tariff of duties on imports. It is now so generally conceded that the purpose of revenue alone can justify the imposition of duties on imports, that, in re-adjusting the impost tables and schedules, which unquestionably require essential modifications, a departure from the principles of the present tariff is not anticipated.

ARMY.

The army, during the past year, has been actively engaged in defending the Indian frontier, the state of the service permitting but few and small garrisons in our permanent fortifications. The additional regiments authorized at the last session of Congress have been recruited and organized, and a large portion of the troops have already been sent to the field. All the duties which devolve on the military establishment have been satisfactorily performed, and the dangers and privations incident to the character of the service required of our troops have furnished additional evidence of their courage, zeal, and capacity to meet any requisition which their country may make upon them. For the details of the military operations, the distribution of the troops, and additional provisions required for the military service, I refer to the report of the Secretary of War and the accompanying documents.

Experience, gathered from events which have transpired since my last annual message, has but served to confirm the opinion then expressed of the propriety of making provision, by a retired list, for disabled officers, and for increased compensation to the officers retained on the list for active duty. All the reasons which existed, when these measures were recommended on former occasions, continue without modification, except so far as circumstances have given to them additional force.

The recommendations, heretofore made, for a partial reorganization of the army are also renewed. The thorough elementary education given to those officers who commence their service with the grade of cadet, qualifies them, to a considerable extent, to perform the duties of every arm of the service; but to give the highest efficiency to artillery requires the practice and special study of many years; and it is not, therefore, believed to be advisable to maintain, in time of peace, a larger force of that arm than can be usually employed in the duties appertaining to the service of field and siege artillery.

The duties of the staff in all its various branches, belong to the movements of the troops, and the efficiency of an army in the field would materially depend upon the ability with which those duties are discharged. It is not, as in the case of the artillery, a speciality, but requires, also, an intimate knowledge of the duties of an officer of the line, and it is not doubted that to complete the education of an officer for either the line or the general staff, it is desirable that he shall have served in both. With this view it was recommended on a former occasion that the duties of the staff should be performed by details from the line; and, with conviction of the advantages which would result from such a change, it is again presented for the consideration of Congress.

NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy, herewith submitted, exhibits in full the naval operations of the past year, together with the present condition of the service, and it makes suggestions of further legislation, to which your attention is invited.

The construction of the six steam frigates, for which appropriations were made by the last Congress, has proceeded in the most satisfactory manner, and with such expedition as to warrant the belief that they will be ready for service early the coming spring. Important as this addition to our naval forces is, it still remains inadequate to the contingent exigiences of the protection of the extensive sea coast and vast commercial interests of the United States. In view of this fact, and of the acknowledged wisdom of the policy of a gradual and systematic increase of the navy, an appropriation is recommended for the construction of six steam sloops-of-war.

In regard to the steps taken in execution of the act of Congress to promote the efficiency of the navy, it is unnecessary for me to say more than to express entire concurrence in the observations on that subject presented by the Secretary in his report.

POST-OFFICE.

It will be perceived by the report of the Postmaster General that the gross expenditure of the Department for the last fiscal year was nine million, nine hundred and sixty-eight thousand, three hundred and forty-two dollars, and the gross receipts seven million, three hundred and forty-two thousand, one hundred and thirty-six dollars, making an excess of expenditure over receipts of two million, six hundred and twenty-six thousand, two hundred and six dollars; that the cost of mail transportation during that year was six hundred and seventy-four thousand, nine hundred and fifty-two dollars greater than the previous year.

Much of the heavy expenditure, to which the Treasury is thus subjected, is to be ascribed to the large quantity of printed matter conveyed by the mails, either franked, or liable to no postage by law, or to very low rates of postage compared with that charged on letters; and to the great cost of mail service on railroads and by ocean steamers. The suggestions of the Postmaster General on the subject deserve the consideration of Congress.

INTERIOR.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior will engage your attention, as well for useful suggestions it contains, as for the interest and importance of the subjects to which they refer.

The aggregate amount of public land sold during the last fiscal year, located with military scrip or land warrants, taken up under grants for roads, and selected as swamp lands by States, is twenty-four million five hundred and fifty-seven thousand four hundred and nine acres; of which the portion sold was fifteen million seven hundred and twenty-nine thousand five hundred and twenty-four acres, yielding in receipts the sum of eleven million four hundred and eighty-five thousand three hundred and eighty dollars. In the same period of time, eight million seven hundred and twenty-three thousand eight hundred and fifty-four acres have been surveyed; but, in consideration of the quantity already subject to entry, no additional tracts have been brought into market.

The peculiar relation of the general government to the District of Columbia renders it proper to commend to your care not only its material, but also its moral interests, including education, more especially in those parts of the district outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown.

The commissioners appointed to revise and codify the laws of the District have made such progress in the performance of their task, as to insure its completion in the time prescribed by the act of Congress.

INDIAN DIFFICULTIES.

Information has recently been received that the peace of the settlements in the Territories of Oregon and Washington is disturbed by hostilities on the part of the Indians, with indications of extensive combinations of a hostile character among the tribes in that quarter; the more serious in their possible effect by reason of the undetermined foreign interests existing in those Territories, to which your attention has already been especially invited. Efficient measures have been taken, which, it is believed, will restore quiet, and afford protection to our citizens.

In the Territory of Kansas, there have been acts prejudicial to good order, but as yet none have occurred under circumstances to justify the interposition of the federal Executive. That could only be in case of obstruction to federal law, or of organized resistance to territorial law, assuming the character of insurrection, which if it should occur, it would be my duty promptly to overcome and suppress. I cherish the hope, however, that the occurrence of any such untoward event will be prevented by the sound sense of the people of the Territory, who, by its organic law, possessing the right to determine their own domestic institutions, are entitled, while deporting themselves peacefully, to the free exercise of that right, and must be protected in the enjoyment of it, without interference on the part of the citizens of any of the States.

The Southern boundary line of this territory has never been surveyed and established. The rapidly extending settlements in that region, and the fact that the main route between Independence, in the State of Missouri, and New Mexico, is contiguous to this line suggest the probability that embarrassing questions of jurisdiction may consequently arise. For these and other considerations, I commend the subject to your early attention.

CONSTITUTIONAL THEORY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

I have thus passed in review the general state of the Union, including such particular concerns of the federal government, whether of domestic or foreign relation, as it appeared to me desirable and useful to bring to the special notice of Congress.

Unlike the great States of Europe and Asia, and many of those of America, these United States are wasting their strength neither in foreign war or domestic strife. Whatever of discontent or public dissatisfaction exists, is attributable to the imperfections of human nature, or is incident to all governments, however perfect, which human wisdom can devise. Such subjects of political agitation as at present occupy the public mind consist, to a great extent, of exaggeration of inevitable evils, or over zeal in social improvement, or mere imagination of grievance, having but remote connexion with any of the constitutional functions or duties of the federal government. To whatever extent these questions exhibit a tendency menacing to the stability of the Constitution, or the integrity of the Union and no further, they demand the consideration of the Executive, and require to be presented by him to Congress.

Before the thirteen colonies became a confederation of independent States, they were associated only by community of trans-atlantic origin, by geographical position, and by the mutual tie of common dependence on Great Britain. When that tie was sundered, they severally assumed the powers and rights of absolute self-government. The municipal and social institutions of each, its laws of property and of personal relation, even its political organization, were such only as each one chose to establish, wholly without interference from any other. In the language of the Declaration of Independence, each State had "full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do." The several colonies differed in climate, in soil, in natural productions, in religion, in system of education, in legislation, and in the forms of political administration; and they continued to differ in these respects when they voluntarily allied themselves as States to carry on the war of the revolution.

The object of that war was to disenthral the United Colonies from foreign rule, which had proved to be oppressive, and to separate them permanently from the mother country; the political result was the foundation of a federal republic of the free white men of the colonies, constituted as they were, in distinct, and reciprocally, independent State governments. As for the subject races, whether Indian or African, the wise and brave statesmen of that day, being engaged in no extravagant scheme of social change, left them, as they were, and thus preserved themselves and their posterity from the anarchy, and the ever recurring civil wars, which have prevailed in their revolutionized European colonies of America.

When the confederated States found it convenient to modify the conditions of their association, by giving to the general government direct access, in some respects, to the people of the States as such they proceeded to frame the existing constitution, adhering steadily to one guiding thought, which was to delegate only such power as was necessary and proper to the execution of specific purposes, or in other words, to retain as much as possible, consistently with those purposes, of the independent powers of the individual State. For objects of common defence and security they intrusted to the general government certain carefully defined functions, leaving all others as the undelegated rights of the separate independent sovereignties.

Such is the constitutional theory of our government, the practical observance of which has carried us, and us alone, among modern republics, through nearly three generations of time without the cost of one drop of blood shed in civil war. With freedom and concert of action, it has enabled us to contend successfully on the battle-field against foreign foes, has elevated the feeble colonies into powerful States, and has raised our industrial productions, and our commerce which transports them, to the level of the richest and the greatest nations of Europe. And the admirable adaptation of our political institutions to their objects, combining local self-government with aggregate strength, has established the practicability of a government like ours to cover a continent with confederate States.

The Congress of the United States is, in effect, that Congress of sovereignties which good men in the old world have sought for, and could never attain, and which imparts to America an exemption from the mutable leagues for common action, from the wars, the mutual invasions, and vague aspirations after the balance of power, which convulse from time to time the governments of Europe. Our co-operative action rests in the conditions of permanent confederation preserved by the constitution. Our balance of power is in the separate reserved rights of the States, and their equal representation in the Senate. That independent sovereignty in every one of the States, with its reserved rights of local self-government assured to each by their co-equal power in the Senate, was the fundamental condition of the constitution. Without it the Union would never have existed.

However desirous the larger States might be to reorganize the government so as to give to their population its proportionate weight in the common counsels, they knew it was impossible, unless they conceded to the smaller ones authority to exercise at least a negative influence on all the measures of the government, whether legislative or executive, through their equal representatives in the Senate.

Indeed the larger States themselves could not have failed to perceive that the same power was equally necessary to them, for the security of their own domestic interests against the aggregate force of the general government. In a word, the original States went into this permanent league on the agreed premises of exerting their common strength for the defence of the whole, and all its parts; but of excluding all capability of reciprocal aggression. Each solemnly bound itself to all the others, neither to undertake, nor permit any encroachment upon, or intermeddling with another's reserved rights.

Where it was deemed expedient, particular rights of the States were expressly guaranteed by the constitution; but, in all things beside, these rights were guarded by the limitation of the powers granted, and by express reservation, of all powers not granted, in the compact of union. Thus the great power of taxation was limited to purposes of common defense and general welfare, excluding objects appertaining to the local legislation of the several States; and those purposes of general welfare and common defense were afterwards defined by specific enumeration, as being matters only of correlation between the States themselves, or between them and foreign governments, which, because of their common and general nature, could not be left to the separate control of each State.

Of the circumstances of local condition, interest and rights in which a portion of the States, constituting one great section of the Union, differed from the rest, and from another section, the most important was the peculiarity of a larger relative colored population in the southern than in the northern States.

A population of this class, held in subjection, existed in nearly all the States, but was more numerous and of more serious concernment in the South than in the North, on account of natural differences of climate and production; and it was foreseen that, for the same reasons, while this population would diminish, and, sooner or later, cease to exist, in some States, it might increase in others. The peculiar character and magnitude of this question of local rights, not in material relations only, but still more in social ones, caused it to enter into the special stipulations of the Constitution.

Hence, while the general government, as well by the enumerated powers granted to it as by those not enumerated, and therefore refused to it, was forbidden to touch this matter in the sense of attack or offense, it was placed under the general safeguard of the Union, in the sense of defense against either invasion or domestic violence, like all other local interests of the several States. Each State expressly stipulated, as well for itself as for each and all of its citizens, and every citizen of each State became solemnly bound by his allegiance to the constitution, that any person, held to service or labor in one State, escaping into another, should not, in consequence of any law or regulation thereof, be discharged from such service or labor, but should be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor might be due by the laws of his State.

Thus, and thus only, by the reciprocal guaranty of all the rights of every State against interference on the part of another, was the present form of government established by our fathers and transmitted to us; and by no means is it possible for it to exist. If one State ceases to respect the rights of another and obtrusively intermeddles with its local interests,—if a portion of the States assume to impose their institutions on the others, or refuse to fulfil their obligations to them,—we are no longer united friendly States, but distracted, hostile ones, with little capacity left of common advantage, but abundant means of reciprocal injury and mischief.

Practically, it is immaterial whether aggressive interference between the States, or deliberate refusal on the part of any one of them to comply with constitutional obligations, arise from erroneous conviction or blind prejudice, whether it be perpetrated by direction or indirection. In either case, it is full of threat and of danger to the durability of the Union.

CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS OF SLAVERY.

Placed in the office of Chief Magistrate as the executive agent of the whole country, bound to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and specially enjoined by the constitution to give information to Congress on the state of the Union, it would be palpable neglect of duty on my part to pass over a subject like this, which, beyond all things at the present time, vitally concerns individual and public security.

It has been matter of painful regret to see States, conspicuous for their services in founding this Republic and equally sharing its advantages, disregard their constitutional obligations to it. Although conscious of their inability to heal admitted and palpable social evils of their own, and which are completely within their jurisdiction, they engage in the offensive and hopeless undertaking of reforming the domestic institutions of other States wholly beyond their control and authority.

In the vain pursuit of ends, by them entirely unattainable, and which they may not legally attempt to compass, they peril the very existence of the constitution, and all the countless benefits which it has conferred. While the people of the Southern States confine their attention to their own affairs, not presuming officiously to intermeddle with the social institutions of the Northern States, too many of the inhabitants of the latter are permanently organized in associations to inflict injury on the former, by wrongful acts, which would be cause of war as between foreign powers, and only fail to be such in our system, because perpetrated under cover of the Union.

It is impossible to present this subject as truth and the occasion require, without noticing the reiterated, but groundless allegation, that the South has persistently asserted claims and obtained advantages in the practical administration of the general government to the prejudice of the North, and in which the latter has acquiesced. That is, the States, which either promote or tolerate attacks on the rights of persons and of property in other States, to disguise their own injustice, pretend or imagine, and constantly aver, that they, whose constitutional rights are thus systematically assailed, are themselves the aggressors. At the present time, this imputed aggression, resting, as it does, only in the vague, declamatory charges of political agitators, resolves itself into misapprehension or misinterpretation of the principles and facts of the political organization of the new Territories of the United States.

What is the voice of history? When the ordinance which provided for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio, and for its eventual subdivision into new States, was adopted in the Congress of the confederation, it is not to be supposed, that the question of future relative power, as between the States which retained and those which did not retain a numerous colored population, escaped notice, or failed to be considered. And yet the concession of that vast territory to the interest and opinions of the Northern States, a territory now the seat of five among the largest members of the Union, was, in a great measure, the act of the State of Virginia and of the South.

When Louisiana was acquired by the United States, it was an acquisition not less to the north than to the south, for while it was important to the country at the month of the river Mississippi to become the emporium of the country above it, so also it was even more important to the whole Union to have that emporium, and although the new province, by reason of its imperfect settlement was regarded as on the Gulf of Mexico, yet in fact it extended to the opposite boundaries of the United States, with far greater breadth above than below and was in territory, as in everything else, equally at least an accession to the northern States. It is mere delusion and prejudice, therefore, to speak of Louisiana as an acquisition in the special interest of the south.

The patriotic and just men who participated in that act, were influenced by motives above all sectional jealousies. It was in truth the great event, which, by completing for us the possession of the valley of the Mississippi, with commercial access to the Gulf of Mexico, imparted unity and strength to the whole confederation, and attached together by indissoluble ties the East and the West, as well as the North and the South.

As to Florida, that was but the transfer by Spain to the United States of territory on the east side of the Mississippi, in exchange for large territory, which the United States transferred to Spain on the west side of that river, as the entire diplomatic history of the transaction serves to demonstrate. Moreover, it was an acquisition demanded by the commercial interests and the security of the whole Union.

In the meantime, the people of the United States had grown up to a proper consciousness of their strength, and in a brief contest with France, and in a second serious war with Great Britain, they had shaken off all which remained of undue reverence for Europe, and emerged from the atmosphere of those trans-atlantic influences which surrounded the infant Republic, and had begun to turn their attention to the full and systematic development of the internal resources of the Union.

Among the evanescent controversies of that period, the most conspicuous was the question of regulation by Congress of the social condition of the future States to be founded in the territory of Louisiana.

The ordinance for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio had contained a provision which prohibited the use of servile labor therein, subject to the condition of the extradition of fugitives from service due in any other part of the United States. Subsequently to the adoption of the Constitution, this provision ceased to remain as a law; for its operation as such was absolutely superseded by the Constitution. But the recollection of the fact excited the zeal of social propagandism in some sections of the confederation; and, when a second State, that of Missouri, came to be formed in the territory of Louisiana, proposition was made to extend to the latter territory the restriction originally applied to the country situated between the rivers Ohio and Mississippi.

Most questionable, as was this proposition in all its constitutional relations, nevertheless, it received the sanction of Congress with some slight modifications of line, to save the existing rights of the intended new State. It was reluctantly acquiesced in by Southern States as a sacrifice to the cause of peace and of the Union, not only of the rights stipulated by the treaty of Louisiana, but of the principle of equality among the States guarantied by the Constitution. It was received by the Northern States with angry and resentful condemnation and complaint, because it did not concede all which they had exactingly demanded. Having passed through the forms of legislation, it took its place in the statute book, standing open to repeal, like any other act of doubtful constitutionality, subject to be pronounced null and void by the courts of law, and possessing no possible efficacy to control the rights of the States, which might thereafter be organized out of any part of the original territory of Louisiana.

In all this, if any aggression there were, any innovation upon the pre-existing rights, to which portions of the Union are they justly chargeable?

This controversy passed away with the occasion, nothing surviving it save the dormant letter of the statute.

But, long afterwards, when, by the proposed accession of the Republic of Texas, the United States were to take their next step in territorial greatness, a similar contingency occurred, and became the occasion for systematized attempts to interfere in the domestic affairs of one section of the Union, in defiance of their rights as States, and of the stipulations of the constitution. These attempts assumed a practical direction, in the shape of persevering endeavors, by some of the representatives in both houses of Congress, to deprive the Southern States of the supposed benefit of the provisions of the act authorising the organization of the State of Missouri.

But the good sense of the people and the vital force of the constitution, triumphed over sectional prejudice and the political errors of the day, and the State of Texas returned to the Union as she was with social institutions which her people had chosen for themselves and with express agreement by the re-annexation act, that she should be susceptible of subdivision into a plurality of States.

Whatever advantage the interests of the Southern States, as such, gained by this, were far inferior in results as they unfolded in the progress of time, to those which sprang from previous concessions made by the South.

To every thoughtful friend of the Union—to the true lovers of their country—to all who longed and labored for the full success of this great experiment of republican institutions—it was the cause of gratulation that such an opportunity had occurred to illustrate our advancing power on this continent, and to furnish to the world additional assurance of the strength and stability of the constitution. Who would wish to see Florida still a European colony? Who would rejoice to hail Texas as a lone star, instead of one in the galaxy of States? Who does not appreciate the incalculable benefits of the acquisition of Louisiana? And yet narrow views and sectional purposes would inevitably have excluded them all from the Union.

But another struggle on the same point ensued, when our victorious armies returned from Mexico, and it devolved on Congress to provide for the territories acquired by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The great relations of the subject had now become distinct and clear to the perception of the public mind, which appreciated the evils of sectional controversy upon the question of the admission of new States. In that crisis intense solicitude pervaded the nation. But the patriotic impulses of the popular heart, guided by the admonitory advice of the Father of his Country, rose superior to all the difficulties of the incorporation of a new empire into the Union. In the counsels of Congress there was manifested extreme antagonism of opinion and action between some representatives, who sought by the abusive and unconstitutional employment of the legislative powers of the government to interfere in the condition of the inchoate States, and to impose their own social theories upon the latter, and other representatives, who repelled the interposition of the general government in this respect, and maintained the self-constituting rights of the States.

In truth, the thing attempted was, in form alone, action of the general government, while in reality it was the endeavor, by abuse of legislative power, to force the ideas of internal policy, entertained in particular States, upon allied independent States. Once more the constitution and the Union triumphed signally. The new Territories were organized without restrictions on the disputed point, and were thus left to judge in that particular for themselves; and the sense of Constitutional faith proved vigorous enough in Congress not only to accomplish this primary object, but also the incidental and hardly less important one, of so amending the provisions of the statute for the extradition of fugitives from service, as to place that public duty under the safeguard of the general government, and thus relieve it from obstacles raised up by the legislation of some of the States.

Vain declamation regarding the provisions of law for the extradition of fugitives from service, with occasional episodes of frantic effort to obstruct their execution by riot and murder, continued for a brief time to agitate certain localities. But the true principle of leaving each State and Territory to regulate its own laws of labor according to its own

sense of right and expediency, ha
fast hold of the public judgment to
that by common consent it was obse
ganization of the Territory of Wash

When, more recently, it became
ganize the Territories of Nebras
was the natural and legitimate, if
consequence of previous events
the same great and sound princip
ready been applied to Utah and Ne
be applied to them—that they sho
from the restrictions proposed in th
the State of Missouri.

These restrictions were, in the e
many thoughtful men, and from the beg
authorized by the constitution, contra
treaty stipulations for the cession of Lou
inconsistent with the equality of the States.

They had been stripped of all moral authority
persistent efforts to procure their indirect re
through contradictory enactments. They had
practically abrogated by the legislation atten
the organization of Utah, New Mexico and W
ington. If any vitality remained in them it
have been taken away, in effect, by the new t
rial act, in the form originally proposed
Senate of the first session of the last Congre
was manly and ingenuous, as well as patriot
just, to do this directly and plainly, and
relieve the statute-book of an act, which
be of possible future injury, but of no possib
ture benefit; and the measure of its repeal w
final consummation and complete recogn
principle, that no portion of the United
undertake, through assumption of the
the general government, to dictate the
stitutions of any other portion

The scope and effect of the language of rep
were not left in doubt. It was declared, in te
to be "the true intent and meaning of this
to legislate slavery into any Territory or Sta
to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the peo
thereof perfectly free to form and regulate th
domestic institutions in their own way, subje
to the Constitution of the United States."

The measure could not be withstood upo
merits alone. It was attacked with violence, o
false or delusive pretext that it constituted a br
of faith. Never was objection more utterly des
tute of substantial justification. When, before, w
it imagined by sensible men that a regulativ
declarative statute, whether enacted ten
years ago, is irreparable—that an act of
is above the Constitution? I, indeed, t
in the facts any cause to impute bad fait
attach to those only who have
the time of the
ion to the present day, to denounce and
it; who have constantly refused to com
needful supplementary legislation, who have sp
no exertion to deprive it of moral force; who
themselves again and again attempted its
the enactment of incompatible provisions,
by the inevitable reactionary effect of thei
olence on the subject, awakened the cou
perception of the true constitutional pr
leaving the matter involved to the discr
the people of the respective existing or i
States.

It is not pretended that this principle,
other precludes the possibility of evils in pr
disturbed as political action is liable to be
man passions. No form of government is
from inconveniences; but in this case they
result of the abuse, and not of the legiti
ercise, of the powers reserved or conferre
organization of a Territory. They are n
charged to the great principle of popular
reignty; on the contrary, they disappear b
the intelligence and patriotism of the people
erting through the ballot-box their peacefu
lent but irrestible power.

If the friends of the Constitution are to
another struggle, its enemies could not pres
more acceptable issue than that of a
whose Constitution clearly embraces "a repub
form of government," being excluded from
Union because its domestic institutions may no
all respects comport with the ideas of what is
and expedient entertained in some other S
Fresh from groundless imputations or b
sith against others, men will commence th
tion of this new question with indubitable viola
of an express compact between the independent sov
ereign powers of the United States and of the re
public of Texas, as well as of the older and eq
solemn compacts, which assure the equality
the States.

But, deplorable as would be such a violati
compact in itself, and in all its direct conseque
that is the very least of the evils involved. W
sectional agitators shall have succeeded in for
on this issue, can their pretensions fall to b
counter pretensions? Will not different States
compelled respectively to meet extremes wit
tremes? And, if either extreme carry its p
what is that so far forth but dissolution of
Union? If a new State, formed from the terri
of the United States, be absolutely excluded f
admission therein, that fact of itself constitute
disruption of union between it and other
But the process of dissolution could not sto
Would not a sectional decision, producing suc
sult by a majority of votes, either Northern or South
ern, of necessity drive out the oppressed and ag
grieved minority, and place in presence of each
other two irreconcilably hostile confederations?

It is necessary to speak thus plainly of projects,
the offspring of that sectional agitation now pre
vailing in some of the States, which are as impracti
cable as they are unconstitutional, and which, if
persevered in, must and will end calamitously. It
either disunion and civil war, or it is mere angr
idle, aimless disturbance of public peace and tr
quility. Disunion for what? If the passionate r
of fanaticism and partisan spirit did not force t
fact upon our attention, it would be difficult
believe that any considerable portion of the pe
ple of this enlightened country could have so su
rendered themselves to a fanatical devotion to th
supposed interests of the relatively few Afric
the United States, as totally to abandon and
gard the interests of the twenty-five milli
Americans—to trample under foot the injuncti
of moral and constitutional obligation—and to
gage in plans of vindictive hostility against th
who are associated with them in the enjoyment
the common heritage of our national institution.

Nor is it hostility against their fellow-citizens of one section of the Union alone. The interests, the honor, the duty, the peace and prosperity of the people of all are equally involved and imperilled in the question. And are patriotic men in any part of the Union prepared on such an issue, thus madly to invite all the consequences of the forfeiture of their constitutional engagements? It is impossible. T
storm of phrensy and faction must inevitably d
itself in vain against the unshaken rock of the
stitution. I shall never doubt it.

I know that the Union is stronger a thous
times than all the wild and chimerical schemes
social change, which are generated one after anot
er, in the unstable minds of visionary sophists a
interested agitators. I rely confidently on the patriotism of the people, on the dignity and self respe
of the States, on the wisdom of Congress, and above all, on the continued gracious favor of Almighty God, to maintain against all enemies, whether at home or abroad, the sanctity of the constitution and the integrity of the Union.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

WASHINGTON December 31, 1855.

Chinese Funeral in California—Curious Ceremony.

We find the following in a late number of the San Francisco *Herald:*

Yesterday was a great day in Chinadom. A r
man had died. He had, during life, been a promin
merchant and occupied a position of influence amo
his countrymen. His death was, therefore, considered to be an event. If he had been a poor man he might have been carried out, rolled up in a winding sheet, on the back of his son or some faithful frie
and tumbled into a hastily constructed grave, a
with the last sod laid over him would have perished all recollections of his virtues or his faults. With the rich man it is different. His good qualities are enhanced in the public estimation by knowledge of his wealth. Virtue, when associate
with large possessions, shines out with a purer eff
gence, while poverty obscures the brightest rays. It is so in civilized communities, and the Chinese have not been bad imitators.

The Chinese merchant, at whose grave a most curious ceremony was performed, yesterday, died about three weeks ago. He was interred in th
Lone Mountain Cemetery, without any pomp. Yesterday, however, a large number of his rel
tives and friends proceeded to his grave for the pu
pose of making offerings to his manes. A reverence for the dead is one of the most striking characteristics of the Chinese race. It is, in fact, the corner-stone of their religious belief. On arriving at the grave the whole company alighted from the carriages, in which they had been conveyed, and commenced the ceremony by spreading mats al
around it. A roast pig was placed at the foo
something else at the head, while all over it we
strewed apple-dumplings, fruits and flowers. To an outside barbarian it looked very much like a well gotten up picnic, and to all appearance all th
the Chinese present required, in order to make
very good meal, which would certainly be a ve
practicable and sensible way of testifying their re
spect for the memory of their deceased friend, was the chop-sticks.

The delicacies were, however, all intended for the use of the hungry soul of the deceased merchant, which had not tasted food for three weeks, (a privation that would, no doubt, have been seriously felt if it had been in the flesh,) and which it was supposed was hovering around, smacking its lips over the dainty food they had provided for it. As soon as all the eatables were laid on the gr
the widow of the deceased hobbled up and to
stand at the foot. Around her head severa
of white cloth were rolled. A priest with a very curly pigtail, a very long blue gown, reaching to his feet, and a very long face, stood at the head. The friends and relatives stood around. As soon as the woman commenced to wail, all the clothes of the deceased were taken out of a trunk and set on fire. Among the clothes were several pieces of fine silk which had apparently never been worn. The whole probably was worth over $500.

Four canary birds were let loose in order to he
the soul of the deceased in its flight to anoth
world, and when the clothes were all consum
and the canary birds had taken shelter in t
neighboring shrubs, the priest with the long f
rang a bell which he had in his hand, at the sa
time muttering a prayer or incantation. A gen
howl followed. The ceremony was conclude
the whole company marching around the g
headed by the priest, who rang his bell at eve
step and looked very solemn indeed. The pig, and the apple-dumplings, and the fruits and the flowers and the matting were all carefully packed up and placed in the carriages, and the whole party then returned to town, where, we are informed, the eatables exposed at the grave will be sold in small pieces at exhorbitant prices to those who are religiously inclined?

A Scrimmage in the Crimea.

Marshal Pelissier thus reports to the French Minister of War, an affair:

"SEBASTOPOL, Dec. 3—1 P. M.

"I have received the following despatch from the General in command of the 1st division the 1st corps:

"A body of from 2,000 to 3,000 infantry, and about 100 or 500 horse, at daybreak this morning attacked Baga, Ourkousta, Skvaka. The enemy beat a retreat after a sharp fusilade, which lasted for an hour and a half. Some thirty prisoners, two of whom were officers, were left in our hands. I do not know the number of killed and wounded. Our loss is insignificant.

"(Signed,) PELISSIER."

Baga, Ourkousta and Skvaka, and three vil
lages situated at the eastern extremity of th
valley of Baidar, and forming the extreme
of the French position as well as of the
army.

THE LOUISVILLE WEEKLY COURIER---A CHEAP PAPER FOR THE MAN OF BUSINESS, THE FARMER, AND THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

Our Frankfort Correspondence.

[Special Correspondence of the Louisville Courier.]

FRANKFORT, Monday Evening, Dec. 31st.

GETTING HERE.

An icy track, inability to make steam, an ancient locomotive, with other causes, detained the morning train from Louisville fully an hour to-day. It matters not, however, for the cars were comfortable, and the passengers, chiefly members of the Legislature and negroes returning from holyday festivals, rendered themselves easy and agreeable. The bridge across the Kentucky river being reached, all deserted the train, for fear of a precipitous fall into the stream below, from the shackling structure. So we entered the State Capital on foot, a devout looking procession, meek and humble, as should every one be, when approaching the awful precincts of this authoritative city.

ABOUT THE CAPITOL HOTEL.

The Capitol Hotel—no misnomer, spell it as you choose—is the headquarters of politicians, legislators, and gentlemen of leisure, during the winter. But we found it quiet as the grave this morning. The fine saloon contained but two or three idlers—we met but three candidates for door-keeper, on the portico step—the bar-room was vacant, and the barber's chairs tenantless. Seeking some explanation for this inexplicable state of affairs, we ascertained that there were

TWO CAUCUSES IN SESSION.

The Democrats made short work with theirs, nominating a ticket, and resolving to stand by it, in emulation of the "seventy-four" at Washington. It was not so, however, with the Know-Nothings. They were not "a happy band of brothers." Since Friday last when the vanguard of the army quartered here, there has been dissension and bad feeling among them. How could it be otherwise when there were six or seven aspirants for the Speakership—when for every other office there were a score of applicants, each warmly urged on by some particular friend—when the Frankfort clique were officiously meddling with every movement and regulating [illegible] to be the party nominees—when some, in true independence, proposed that fitness and ability should constitute the test required of an officer, and not subservience to oaths and secret party discipline. It would be impossible to sketch all that has transpired in the various caucuses held by the K. N.'s on Saturday and *Sunday!* That of this morning, in the ball-room of the hotel, is represented as very boisterous and stormy. In balloting for a candidate for Speaker, the names of R. C. [illegible]wling, of Logan, J. R. Huston, of Clarke, L. A. Whitely, of Louisville, Phil. Lee, of Bullitt, J. W. Menzies, of Kenton, and R. W. Hanson, of Fayette, were proposed. By rule, after the first ballot, all but the three foremost men were dropped, leaving on the track Huston, Hanson, and Lee. The latter gentleman was making a strong race, but modestly withdrew his name, and so the contest lay between Huston and Hanson, the latter coming out ahead, by a close majority. That point being settled, there arose a breeze about the Clerkship. A number of gentlemen were opposed to making a nomination, in order that Thomas J. Helm, Esq., for twenty-one years Clerk of the House, might be re-elected. This immediately gave rise to a furious and lengthy discussion. Mr. Helm not being a Know-Nothing—having entirely repudiated the doctrines of the party, and refused to bow his neck to the yoke, was vehemently berated. It was argued that the members of the party could not vote for any one outside of the ranks, under pain and penalty of expulsion. So the friends of Mr. Helm were forced to capitulate. Party tactics prevailed. The Frankfort clique, foremost in their opposition to him, grinned a ghastly smile at the decapitation of one of the most faithful public officers, and very certainly the very best clerk ever in Kentucky. Age, superior qualifications, untiring industry, acknowledged eminent fitness, availed nothing. He was not a Know-Nothing, and accordingly none of the "oath-bound" could be allowed to vote for Mr. Helm. It is understood that Col. Whitely, of the Fourth and Fifth Wards, Louisville, led the opposition against the old Clerk, rallying the K. N.'s by a long, loud and fiery speech. The nominee for the Clerkship was Mr. McCorkle, of Greensburg, for several years Mr. Helm's assistant. He is well qualified as a writer and reader, but it is no disparagement to him to say that he possesses in no degree the parliamentary knowledge of his predecessor. Long experience had made the latter a perfect adept in the management of the business of the Legislature, and many a green Speaker has had his reputation saved by the timely assistance of Major Helm. In nominating the candidates for the other offices there was some little feeling among the friends of the claimants of the "spoils." A ticket was finally made up, and then an adjournment ensued.

THE SENATE

met at 12 M., and was called to order by the Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Hardy, who took the oath of office, took his seat and ordered a call of the roll. He did not have a word to say by way of inaugural upon assuming the duties of his office, as is customary. Perhaps it is well that he preserved a dignified silence. The Lieutenant Governor is not the most graceful and fluent of speakers, as those whose misfortune it was to hear him in the last canvass can well attest. The old officers of the Senate were re-elected without serious opposition, save Mr. McKinney, the Assistant Clerk, who is a new man. Better officers could not be desired than Dr. Hawkins for Clerk, McClure for Sergeant-at-Arms, and Pruett for Door-keeper. Having thus organized, the Senate took a recess to await the action of the House. But the House was dilatory. At the appointed hour the Baptist church bell was rung, and the Democratic members assembled. Again the bell was rung, and the Democratic members were seated. It was rung a third time, and the Democratic members became impatient. They did not fancy

WAITING FOR KNOW-NOTHINGS.

One o'clock having arrived, Major Helm, the Clerk of the last session, whose business it is to preside until the Speaker is elected, sent word to the absentees that if they were not forthcoming immediately, he would proceed to call the roll and organize without them. This peremptory order brought them in, and the work began. First was the process of qualifying the members, standing at the Clerk's desk in quartettes, and holding up their right hands, while a magistrate read from a book certain obligations to which they assented. This being through with, the balloting commenced, and proceeded quietly to the close. You will see that there was a strict party vote in each instance. Mr. Huston, the Speaker, was conducted to the chair by Messrs. Ben Hardin Helm and Phil Lee. He delivered a brief, pertinent and graceful address, thanking the members for the honor conferred upon him. Mr., or General, John Boyd Huston is the Representative from Clark, and a very able jury lawyer. He has served one session in the Legislature, and was beaten for Congress in 1849 by John C. Mason, of Bath. He is a gentleman of prepossessing appearance, and will doubtless do justice to his difficult position. The other officers were installed as they were elected, and by 3 o'clock the House was ready for business. But the Senators had vamosed for dinner, and the Representatives were both dry and hungry. So a motion to adjourn prevailed. To-morrow we shall have the Governor's Message, and then for business.

GROWLS OF THE DEFEATED K. N'S.

The near approach of car-time presents a rich budget of facts, connected with the Know-Nothing caucussing, being opened for the amusement of our readers. They will, however, not spoil by keeping. You may well imagine that the K. N's, defeated for the candidacy of the various petty offices, growl furiously. More oaths have been sworn in Frankfort to-day than ever before, and they are chiefly directed at the clique. One poor, disconsolate victim, who had been seduced from his home by the vain hope of being made Sergeant-at-Arms, could not find terms of sufficient strength to express his abhorrence of the "faction," as he called it. A remark made by this man was very forcible, if not classical. He said that if a ton of lobelia was dropped in a certain bottomless pit, there could not be ejected therefrom such a rascally set as the Frankfort clique. If any of the gentlemen composing the famous body just named, desire to hold this defeated aspirant to account, or to institute a libel suit, we can tell them that he wore a yellowish blanket overcoat and had but one eye. The last we saw of him he was making tracks toward the depot. Search out the refractory K. N.

SE DE KAY.

FRANKFORT, Wednesday Jan. 2.

THE NEW YEAR

Than the dawning of yesterday, no New Year was ever more brilliant, at least so far as the sun and weather is concerned. The luminary of day, however, shone, as Thompson has his seasons hath it

"Through the horizontal misty air,
Shorn of his beams."

It scarce affected the snow, nor more than made trickle the pendant icicles. It was lustrous without warmth, as are the smiles and looks of a coquettish woman. But we regard it as auspicious, and the town hailed the incoming year with appropriate joviality. There was a constant succession of calls upon the ladies, and the usual partakement of cake and wine. Upon the streets were crowds of people, mottled with black, for it was the great hiring day of servants. In the Legislature very little business was done, save the reception of the Governor's Message—a document which will be laid before our readers, and of which, of course, all can judge. Whatever may be its merits or defects, it affords one cause for congratulation, and that is the unexampled condition of the State finances. The few last paragraphs in the message are very significant. Gov. Morehead gives his reasons for joining the K. N. party, but he appears now to be perfectly aware of the inability of that organization to accomplish the patriotic ends he entertained. He acknowledges its utter ruin—its entire failure of success as the Union party. Such at least is the tenor of the Governor's message. Perhaps by those interested, it may be construed otherwise.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Neither House is, as yet, fairly at work. Both are now engaged in "cutting out" business, and from the two days' planning we may safely calculate on the session being greatly prolonged beyond the constitutional term. An unusual number of petitions have been presented, begging for all sorts of grants and privileges. "Leaves" to introduce bills are also very abundant; but most of these bills are already provided for by statute. Young and inexperienced Know-Nothing members are, however, not aware of the provisions made by the last Legislature for these matters of local legislation, and consequently must be pardoned for throwing so much unnecessary labor upon the clerks and committees.

NEGRO PHOBIA.

The absurdities of the Virginia Legislature, (now in session) with reference to slavery, we had never anticipated being re-enacted in Kentucky, daughter—and a worthy one—as she is, to the Old Dominion. There, the querulousness and tremor of dotage is barely pardonable. Here, in a comparatively new State, with all the strength, calmness and prudence incident to her position and belonging to her character, it is inexcusable. And yet we see a movement towards the same follies. Mr. Nuttall, of Henry, has introduced a bill for the better security of slave property, as if legislation could effect more than does Senator Mason's (of Va.,) Fugitive Slave Law. We cannot expect by any enactment, however stringent, to prevent the escape of negroes. The only remedy is in the hands of the Federal Government, and that consists in the restoration of slave property, when taken in free States. An army of bayonets along the entire Ohio river shore could not hinder the flight of some of our slaves. State legislation is, therefore, useless, while the rights of the South are so amply protected by the broad ægis of Constitutional Compromise. By this manifestation of tender-footedness we only place ourselves in a vulnerable position before the North—subjecting our peculiar institution to the criticisms, the jibes and insults of the press and oratory of that section. But Mr. Chas. A. Marshall, of Mason county—as is the family fashion—has exceeded Mr. Nuttall. He has introduced a resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to make *negro* testimony legal in cases against whites concerned in running off our slaves. This at first sight appeals to our prejudices. But it is on a par with the Black Laws of Ohio, for sanctioning which, Gov. Bebb—a clever Whig politician—was ruined in a free State. The section which Mr. Marshall represents has greatly suffered from abolition emissaries, and the losses out of his own pocket cause us to feel for him something of sympathy. But his measure will never do. He, however, will press it with all the perseverance and ingenuity of his nature. And let me say here that, before the Legislature adjourns, he will be found one of, if not the ablest man in the House. He is a farmer, but can plead his own cases in court. He can beat any member quoting the classics—either Ancient or English. He is in fact a man of original genius; but alas! he has the name and eccentricities of a Marshall!

SEDUCTION.

Mr Nuttall, who has already manifested a disposition to be a prominent man, has introduced a bill providing that Seduction shall be a criminal offence, punishable, not as heretofore with damages, but by confinement in the penitentiary. We are astonished to hear of opposition to this measure; and the opposition comes too, from *young men!* Do they consider themselves implicated?

INSURANCE.

It will be a matter of interest to many in our city to know that already a bill has been introduced regulating the Foreign Insurance Agencies in Kentucky. The object of this is to protect home companies from unsound corporations abroad. It will not effect those old companies which have been doing business for a long while with great success; but its restrictions will be such as to abolish "root and branch" the numerous capital-less affairs now paraded in the newspapers.

A DASH AT THE PRESIDENCY.

There was an ominous arrival in the morning train from Louisville. Col. Linn Boyd, and a large number of friends, came to town. They have an eye upon the Democratic Convention of the Eighth, and desire the recommendation of Col. B. for the Presidency. The friends of Gov. Powell desire that there shall be no expression of opinion on the subject. So we have a war of the roses at once in the Democratic camp. Long life to political dissentions!—We must designate the Boyd party as the *White*, and the Powell as the *Red*. Wherefore! Col. Boyd's looks are snow *white*. Gov. Powell's cheeks are *red* as ruby. Go it York! Go it Lancaster.

MAJOR HELM'S CASE.

The unwarrantable slaughter of Major Helm by the Know-Nothings, excites great attention. He is the first martyr of the party, and like Stephen of old, deserves apotheosis. The "clique" affect for him great sympathy; but we have heard afore time of people who smile and stab; and who then weep after the stabbing. There is a great feeling here for Major Helm for the Clerkship of the Court of Appeals. A better officer could not be had. Bring him out!

SE DE KAY.

THE NEW HAVEN TRAGEDY.

The New Haven *Journal and Courier* gives the following additional evidence taken before the Coroner's Jury:

While giving the account of the whole affair, Sly seemed desirous of telling the truth without hesitation. He kept the Bible in his hand all the time, and frequently said during the confession, that he narrated the facts "in the fear of the Lord." He appeared extremely nervous, and any noise in the room seemed to disturb him very much. This nervousness appeared to be a constitutional difficulty. He said he was born in 1803, and is now nearly 52 years of age. He said that when four years of age he received a cut upon the head, which injured his brain considerably. In consequence of this he seemed unable to collect his ideas as readily as was oftentimes desired by the jury.

Sly had made a clean breast of the whole affair to Sheriff Parmelee in the morning, and manifested a desire to tell the whole to the Jury. This declaration was made to the Sheriff voluntarily, and without being desired to do so.

Mrs. Rhoda Wakeman, the prophetess, called and sworn.

This witness is the founder of the sect called the "Wakemanites," and is a wonderful specimen of the human species. She came in closely veiled, and is the very personification of the wonderful woman that lived in Salem in the sixteenth century.

I shall be 70 years old next November—have lived in New Haven 17 years—have had 17 children, 9 of whom are now living, have been a widow 20 years. I formerly resided in Greenfield—then moved to New Haven; my brother has also resided here; he is about 50 years of age. I have been a "messenger" from God about 30 years; experienced religion at that time and walked with Jesus Christ ever since; first experienced religion because my husband abused me and I expected to die and he finally killed me. After my husband killed me, I was dead seven hours and then raised; two angels stood beside me when I went to Heaven and touched me with their bright swords and I rose again; saw there all that was dead, and there they were under the cloud of death; when I was there this cloud parted, and my spirit went one way, and theirs the other; they all then held up their little right hands, and I rejoiced. The two angels turned to me and then I went up to Heaven; there was a red light and many white clouds there; Christ came to me when I was in Heaven, with his nails in his hands, and spoke peace to my soul. Because he spoke peace to my soul, I raised up, and another spirit came to me and spoke, saying: "Make your peace with God." I then kept on praying; he soon took me to Paradise and told me all about Adam and Eve, and all the other spirits. This light then came on me so that I had to look up, and the spirits said I was numbered as one of them; was taken up to heaven from this place of light, and then saw Christ and all the holy angels; Christ had on the thorns, and looked as he was when crucified, then saw God sitting upon his throne in all his glory. About the throne were all the angels in their white robes, and they were all happy spirits there. This spirit then came and took me back to earth, and when I got back to earth again, I saw my dead body lying on the floor. I felt bad because I had come back to this wicked world to live again. I soon saw my wicked husband, who said, "My God, she's raised!" Soon after I saw two angels who came to me and spoke to me kindly and then Christ appeared to me, and I fell down before him. And oh! how happy I felt! and how happy I then was! I went to God with my case last night, and had a revelation from him. That man was in league with the devil. He (meaning Matthews) got his evil spirit from Amos Hunt. Hunt attempted to poison me. She went on and gave a long and rambling account of Amos Hunt's poisoning her.) The first thing I knew of the murder was when they came up stairs searching for a hatchet. I knew that my brother had a stick of witch-hazel in the house. He sells the bark and lives by so doing. I was sick that night and expected to die, and asked them to take Matthews out of the house. He had such a bad spirit that he was taking away my divine spirit and was killing me by it. Amos Hunt was the man of sin, and he put his spirit on Matthews. If I should die the judgment would come! This man of sin cursed God, and when he died there was a black spot on the throne of God. In my revelations from God, last night, He said if I was condemned in this case the world would be immediately destroyed! In this revelation I was told by God that my brother did kill Matthews, and that he did it to save the world!

This singular revelation here closed, and the "messenger from God" (as he calls himself) was taken back to jail.

The jury then rendered the following verdict:

We, the undersigned Jurors, being empannelled and sworn to inquire of the cause and manner of the death of Justus W. Matthews, late of Hamden, found dead at the town of New Haven, on the 24th of December, A. D. 1855, at the house of Rhoda Wakeman, and whose death was by violence—having viewed the body of the deceased, and duly and carefully considered the evidence presented to us, do on our oath say that the said Justus W. Matthews came to his death at the aforesaid house, on Sunday night last, December 23 or 24th 1855, between the hours of twelve and four o'clock, from wounds received by him, on his neck, head and breast, which were inflicted upon him then and there by a stick, a knife and a fork, in the hands of Samuel Sly, of said town; and that the jury also find Thankful S. Hursey, of said town, accessory before and after the death.

[Reported for the Louisville Courier.]

General Assembly of Kentucky.

DECEMBER 31, 1855.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order by Lieut. Governor Hardy. The newly-elected Senators were then sworn in by Judge James Monroe.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. J. Russell Hawkins was elected Clerk. Mr. G. H. McKinney was elected Assistant Clerk. Mr. Jno. D. McClure Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. Jno. W. Pruett, Doorkeeper.

The Senate then took a recess to await the organization of the House of Representatives.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House was called to order by J. Helm, Esq., Clerk of the last session. The members were then sworn in by G. W. Gwin, Esq.

A quorum being present, Mr. Jno. B. Huston and Mr. S. Gaither were put in nomination for Speaker. The vote stood: For Huston, 56, for Gaither 37—majority for Huston, 19.

Mr. J. M. S. McCorkle and Mr. Beverly J. Peters were nominated for Clerk, and the vote stood: For McCorkle, 57; for Peters, 38—majority for McCorkle, 19.

For Sergeant-at-Arms—Jos. Gray, 57; Mr. Young, 36—majority for Gray, 21.

For Doorkeeper—Wm. R. Campbell, 58; Mr. Stoughton, 37—majority for Campbell, 21.

For Assistant Clerk—C. E. Nourse, of Bardstown, 57; B. C. Allin, of Mercer, 38—majority for Nourse, 19.

FRANKFORT, 3½, P. M.

The Governor's Message will be delivered to-morrow. Yours, &c.,

REPORTER.

FRANKFORT, Jan. 1.

SENATE—A resolution requesting ministers to open the sessions with prayer, was offered by Mr. Kohlhass; adopted.

Resolutions admitting the reporters of the Commonwealth and Yeoman to seats on the floor of the Senate, were also adopted.

LEAVE TO BRING IN BILLS.

Mr. Irvine offered a bill to amend the laws in relation to pedlars.

Mr. Conklin presented a bill to amend the Code of Practice so as to authorize circuit courts to have surveyors indicted for failing to have public roads kept in repair.

Mr. D. H. Smith presented a bill to establish an asylum for idiots.

Mr. Ripley offered a bill to amend the Charter of Louisville.

Mr. Irvine—A bill to amend laws in relation to administrators, executors and curators.

Same—A bill to amend the law in relation to guardians.

Mr. Ripley—A bill to amend the law in relation to foreign insurance agencies.

Mr. Irvine—A bill to amend the law in relation to studs, jacks and bulls.

Mr. Wadsworth—A bill to prevent fraudulent conveyances.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

A message was received from the House of Representatives that they had appointed a committee to wait on the Governor and inform him of their organization. A similar committee was appointed on the part of the Senate, and in a short time the Governor sent in his message.

Two hundred copies of the message were ordered to be printed for each Senator.

LEAVES.

Mr. Sudduth—A bill to amend the Militia Law.

Several leaves were granted to bring in private bills, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE—The usual committee to wait on the Governor was appointed, and to inform the Senate of the organization of the House of Representatives.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

In a short time the Governor sent in his Message, which was read, when, on motion of Mr. Nuttall, 200 copies for each member of the House were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Nuttall, the Committee on Judiciary were directed to inquire into the power of the Legislature to restrict the banks in the amount which they shall use in discounting bills of exchange, and notes respectively. On motion of Mr. Menzies, it was

Resolved, That the Auditor furnish the House the number of causes which have been commenced in the Circuit Courts of this Commonwealth from 1851 to 1855 inclusive, by counties and by judicial districts, &c.

LEAVE TO BRING IN BILLS.

Mr. Nuttall—A bill to declare seduction a criminal offense, and provide for its punishment.

Leave was granted to bring in sundry local and private bills of the House. Adjourned.

FRANKFORT, Jan. 2, 1856.

SENATE.—The Senate was opened with a prayer by Rev. J. P. Safford, of the Presbyterian Church.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES.

Mr. Irvine.—A bill to regulate the law in relation to Administrators, Executors and Curators; referred to Judiciary Committee.

Same.—A bill to amend the law in relation to Guardians; referred to same committee.

Same.—A bill to amend the laws in relation to studs, jacks and bulls; referred to Finance Committee.

LEAVE TO BRING IN BILLS.

Mr. Silvertooth.—A bill to repeal second section Revised Statues in relation to slaves.

Mr. Conklin.—A bill to levy the three cent tax for Common Schools.

Mr. De Courcey.—A bill to incorporate the Merchants' Bank of Kentucky.

Same.—A bill to charter the Clay Marine and Fire Insurance Company of Newport.

Mr. Buckner.—A bill to establish separate criminal courts in this State.

Mr. Wadsworth.—A bill to establish the 13th Judicial District.

Mr. Sudduth.—A bill creating the office of Chancellor in each Judicial District.

Mr. Ripley.—A bill to establish the Trade water Coal and Iron Mining Company.

Same.—A bill to charter Washington Insurance Company of Louisville.

Mr. Hardin.—A bill to amend 83rd section of the Civil Code of Practice.

Mr. Kohlhass.—A bill to amend the 7th Article of the Revised Statues in relation to felonies by free negroes.

Mr. Haggin.—A bill to amend charter of Mechanics' Bank of Louisville.

Same.—A bill for benefit of Louisville and Newburg road.

Mr. Sudduth.—A bill to repeal provisions of Code of Practice, requiring pleadings in ordinary to be sworn to.

Mr. Haggin.—A bill to authorize the recovery of damages sustained by the wrongful taking of life.

Mr. De Courcey.—A bill to increase the jurisdiction of the Quarterly Courts in this Commonwealth.

On motion of Mr. D. Howard Smith, the Governor's Message was referred to appropriate committees, and then the Senate adjourned.

LEAVE TO BRING IN BILLS.

HOUSE.—Mr. Irvan, a bill to release persons over 60 years old from paying poll-tax.

Mr. Speer, a bill to arrest the demoralizing of the slaves of this Commonwealth.

Mr. L. Anderson, a bill to establish conventional rates of interest.

Mr. Helm, a bill requiring title bonds for land to be recorded.

Mr. Menzies, a bill to amend the laws regulating the duties of assessors.

Mr. Bodley, a bill to enlarge the criminal jurisdiction of the City Court of Louisville.

Same, a bill to charter the German Mutual Insurance Company.

Same, a bill to amend the charter of the Louisville & Memphis R. R. Co.

Mr. Whitely asked leave to bring in several private bills.

Mr. Miller, a bill to amend Chapter 103, of the Revised Statutes.

Mr. Ricketts, a bill establishing a general mechanics' lien law.

Mr. Rogers, a bill to amend the law of execution, relative to the exemption of property.

Mr. Goodloe, a bill to place negotiable notes on the footing of foreign bills of exchange.

Same, a bill to amend Chapter 42, Revised Statutes, in relation to gambling.

Mr. P. Lee, a bill to change time for payment of revenue by Sheriffs.

Leave for various private bill were asked also, and the House adjourned.

REPORTER.

Consumption Can be Cured.

CINCINNATI, March 10, 1852.

MESSRS. O. R. BAKER & CO.,—*Gents:*—Two winters ago I was very low with consumption, and physicians seemed to fail to do me any permanent benefit, and I continued to grow worse any worse until my physician told me that one of my lungs was entirely gone!—and that I could not get well! I then tried Dr. Hall's Balsam, which at first sickened me, but I soon threw off large quantities of matter and phlegm, and my cough gradually ceased, and my lungs began to heal, and I continued to improve till I was entirely cured, and have been able to attend to my business ever since. I soon afterward recommended it to an acquaintance of mine, who was a walking skeleton, and apparently worse than I was. He tells me it was the means of saving his life. For further reference call on me at my residence, No. 55, south side of East Third street, between Broadway and Sycamore streets; or at the Museum on Sycamore street.

JOHN A BOWIQUIRE.

Be sure and ask for Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs. Genuine signed O. R. Baker & Co.

For sale by BELL, TALBOTT & CO.

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[Reported for the Louisville Courier.]

COURT OF APPEALS.

MARSHALL—CHIEF JUSTICE.

SIMPSON, STITES, AND CRENSHAW—JUDGES

CAUSES DECIDED.

Harper vs Baker, Louisville; affirmed.
Brittenham vs Randolph, Louisville; affirmed.
Fulkerson vs Kelly, Owsley; "
Noland vs Hall, "
Johnson vs Bates, Floyd; "
Griffing vs Strong, Brathell; reversed.

ORDERS.

Hunt vs Tomlinson, Morgan.
Sloane vs Sloane, Pike.
Herndon vs Wilson, Montgomery.
Graves vs Johnson, "
Thomas vs Howard, "
Clarke vs Enson, Bath.
Smith vs Sewell, Carter.
Asenlon vs Nixon, " were argued.

FRANKFORT, Tuesday, Jan. 1

CAUSES DECIDED.

Hampton vs Corree, Louisville, affirmed;
Hornston vs Hamilton, Owsley, reversed.
Hunt vs Tomlinson, Morgan, "
Clark vs. Engon, Bath, "

ORDERS

McDonald vs. Stancliff, Bath,
Whaley vs. Bringer, "
Kendall vs Small, "
Fields vs. Deatley, "
Young vs. Johnson, "
Kerthley vs. Anderson, "
Daniels vs. Daniel, Montgomery, were argued.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 2.

CAUSES DECIDED.

Kendall vs Small, Bath; affirmed.
Fields vs Deatley, " "
Young vs Johnson, " reversed.
Smith vs Lewell, Breathett; "
Wethers vs Fuller, Louisville, "
Herndon vs Wilson, Montgomery; affirmed.

ORDERS.

Wilson vs Moberly, Montgomery;
Womble vs Smith, "
Greenawalt vs Seebee, "
Mackey vs Paul, Greenup;
Hughes vs Spaulding, Greenup;
Collins vs McAlester, " were argued.

☞The Winchester *Chronicle* is to be continued by J. A Williams, Esq.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[REPORTED EXCLUSIVELY AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE LOUISVILLE COURIER.]

Heavy Rains and Destructive Freshets in Alabama.

NEW YORK, January 2.

Advices from Montgomery, Ala., inform us that there have been terrible and continuous rains in that section. All mail communications have been suspended, the railroad is submerged, bridges across streams have been swept away, and there is a general inundation. The loss and destruction of property has been immense.

REPORTED FOR THE LOUISVILLE COURIER

XXXIVTH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

Monday's Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31, P. M.

SENATE.—After the reading of the journal, the Annual Message of the President of the United States was presented and read.

After the reading of the Message, Mr Clayton made some remarks relative to the treaty of April 19th, 1850, in order to show to the people of the United States the strength of the position assumed by this Government relative to Central American affairs, and the injustice of the position taken by Great Britain with regard to the construction of that treaty. He agreed generally with all that the President had stated, and contrasted the pacific character of this country with the aggressive policy always pursued by Great Britain.

Mr. Seward inquired whether the ground taken by the British Government regarding the construction of that treaty, namely: that it was merely prospective in its operation, and had no reference to the actual occupation, by that country, of the territory in question, was the understanding of the United States Government when the treaty was made, Mr. Clayton then being Secretary of State.

Mr. Clayton replied that it was an entirely new construction, something of which he had never before heard.

The debate was further continued at some length, and the Senate finally adjourned until Wednesday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—HOUSE.—Immediately after reading the journal, Sydney Webster, Private Secretary to the President, appeared, announcing from letter the message in writing. Great excitement was produced, amid which Mr. Clingman moved it be read in order to hear what it was.

Mr. Morgan called for the yeas and nays, and on motion that the message be read, no reading was wanted till the house was organized.

Mr. Giddings and others anxiously struggled for the floor.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31, P. M.—HOUSE.—Mr. Clingman did not know what the Message contains, but the President has a right, on the assembling of Congress, when in his judgment it is necessary, to communicate it in writing. The Constitution gives him this authority.

Mr. Campbell contended that the reading of the Message is business, and that no business can be transacted till the House organize. The sending of the Message in advance of an organization was an innovation.

Mr. Clingman was perfectly willing. "The gentleman shall decide on the question of order."

Mr. Orr said that the Constitution expressly recognizes this body as the House, saying the House representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers. He thought Ohio Campbell raised his point too soon. "It is respectful to the President that the Message should be read."

Ohio Campbell replied that it was utterly useless to have it read, unless they could do something with it after it was read.

Mr Stephens insisted that the Message should be read, saying it might contain matters important for Congress to know.

Mr. Washburn, of Maine, contended that this is not a Congress, and the President cannot communicate till the organization.

Mr. Giddings said: "This is too great a question to be decided on technicality. He wished to meet it frankly, boldly, on its merits. It was an attempted innovation on the practice of government. If it was important for the President to communicate, why did the President delay it for four weeks!" Mr. G. would not submit to such proceedings.

A debate was had concerning the constitutional power in the above premises, during which Mr. Orr said the sending of the Message at this time was an innovation, but the extraordinary scene here presented justified the President in taking the responsibility. The question was, shall it be received?

Humphrey Marshall thought the Message should be received and laid on the table till the House adjourned.

The House, after a long debate refused to read the Message, and laid the whole subject on the table. Adjourned till Wednesday.

Wednesday's Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—SENATE.—After the usual preliminary to business, Mr. Giddings moved a correction of the journal, which stated that the President's Message was received by the House. He denied this, and said the message was announced in the House and delivered to the clerk by the President's private secretary without permission.

The proposition to correct the journal was tabled by 30 majority.

Mr. Knight offered a resolution to elect a Speaker by the plurality rule.

Mr. Phelps moved to lay it on the table.

The motion to lay the plurality resolution on the table was carried by 12 majority.

The House then resumed balloting for Speaker with the following result:

Eighty-fifth Ballot.—Banks 103, Fuller 32, Richardson 72, Pennington 6, Scattering 5, necessary to a choice 110.

Mr. Williams moved that the President's annual message be read. In his opinion it was an admirable State paper.

Mr. Stanton thought the President had been guilty of indecency, in thrusting his message in the face of the members. It was most disreputable, falsifying truth and the whole history of the government from the commencement till now (hisses.) He raised a point that no cognizance whatsoever could be taken of the message until the House is organized.

The whole subject was then laid on the table by 27 majority.

Eighty-sixth Ballot was taken resulting: Banks 101, Richardson 71, Fuller 30, Pennington 6, Scattering 6. Whole number of votes 213, necessary to a choice 107.

House adjourned.

Collision.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 1.—At half past 4 o'clock P. M., the 3 o'clock passenger train west of the O. & P. R. R., came in collision with the freight train, coming east, at Darlington Summit.

The freight train was off time and the conductor probably endeavored to reach the switch, within a short distance of which the collision occurred, on a heavy curve. Four persons were killed, viz: Mr. Stokes, agent of the New Castle and Erie Stage Co.; a man named Johnson, brother to the landlord of the Enon Valley; an Irishman, and another man whose name has not been mentioned.

About a dozen were more or less dangerously wounded; among them the engineer of Express, and the fireman, who had one arm shattered. John Veach, also, was dangerously wounded. The locomotive and cars were badly smashed, both trains being under full headway.

The accident was caused by the watch of the conductor of the freight train being three-quarters of an hour too slow.

Fire

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 2.—Last night the dwelling of John Kregon, of Temperanceville, near Pittsburgh, was destroyed by fire with all its contents. Two children perished in the flames, being literally burned to cinder. Two other children, thrown out of the window by their grandmother, who afterwards saved herself by jumping, were but slightly injured. Mr. Kregon was absent in this city attending the orphans' fair.

New York Legislature.

ALBANY, Jan. 2.—The House yesterday made several attempts to elect a Speaker without success.

Mr. Odill, the Know-Nothing candidate, stands the highest.

A strenuous effort is making to effect a fusion between the Hards and Softs.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—HOUSE—The caucus of Democrats nominated Richardson L. Wright Speaker, by acclamation. Sixty-six members were present.

SENATE.—The Democrats nominated for Speaker Wm. Piatt, of Wyoming. Present, 17. Adjourned.

Election—Legislature.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 2, P. M.—A special election for Councilman, in the 15th Ward, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Levi Taylor, Dem., was held to-day, and resulted in the election of Simmons, American, by 164 majority over Geo. P. Kane, Anti-K. N.

The Legislature of Maryland met to-day at Annapolis, but did not organize.

A Destructive Fire.

BUFFALO, Jan. 2, P. M.—Three warehouses, occupied by Mann, Vail & Co., were destroyed by fire this morning. One of the buildings was used for ship chandlery stores, upon which there was an insurance of $5,000.

Death of Hon. John M. Berrien.

SAVANNAH, Jan. 2.—Hon. John M. Berrien died in this city this morning, after an illness of 12 days. The deceased was appointed Attorney General by Gen. Jackson in 1829, and held many offices of trust in his own State.

Massachusetts Legislature.

BOSTON, Jan. 2.—The Legislature met this morning. The Senate was organized by the election of E. J. C. Banker, American, as President. The House has not yet organized. The Governor's Message will be sent in to-morrow.

Washington Items.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The Southern mail failed to reach this city.

The U. S. Treasury statement reports that on the 29th ult., there were $22,753,700 in the treasury, subject to draft.

Steamer Plymouth Rock Aground.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31, P. M.—The steamer Plymouth Rock, for Stonington, went ashore on Hart's Island at two o'clock Sunday morning. The passengers and mail were taken off by the steamer Bay State. The Plymouth Rock remained aground, and this morning steamers were sent to her aid.

Railroad Accident

PITTSBURG, Dec. 31, P. M.—A terrible accident occurred near Darlington, Beaver county, on the Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad this evening. Several persons were killed. No particulars obtained yet.

No Signs of the Canada.

HALIFAX, Jan. 2.—Up to this time we have no intelligence of the approach of the Canada, now due from Liverpool, with dates to Dec 22.

Sailed.

BOSTON, Jan. 2.—The steamer Asia sailed for Liverpool via Halifax at noon. She has about 100 passengers but no specie.

Counting House Calender for 1856.

ARRANGED EXPRESSLY FOR THE LOUISVILLE COURIER.

Louisville Daily Courier Published by W. N. Haldeman at $8 per annum.

January.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

March.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30					

July.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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27	28	29	30	31		

August.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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31						

September.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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28	29	30				

October.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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November.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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30						

December.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

REMOVED ON MAIN STREET.

RAMSEY & BRO.,
DEALERS IN
Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, &c.,

HAVE removed to No. 483 Main street, one door below Fourth, adjoining Hall's, Craig & Co's corner.

We invite the attention of friends and strangers to our new house with new goods.

Gold and Silver Watches of every variety.

FASHIONABLE JEWELRY.

Diamond, Cameo, Gold Stone, Florentine Mosaic, Enameled, Carbuncle, Minaiture, Coral, Jet, Frosted and Plain styles.

Bracelets, Chains, Lockets, Seals, Chatelaines, Rings, Pencils, Pens, Thimbles, Scissors, Pen Knives.

CLOCKS.

Thirty-day Clocks for bank, office and parlor. Always on hand the largest assortment in the city, at wholesale and retail.

SILVERWARE.

We manufacture Spoons, Ladles, Forks, &c.

☞ Repairing in every department of our business by the best workmen, and warranted to give satisfaction.

Spectacles with Fine Glasses.

TESTIMONY of our citizens speak for us: We, the undersigned, citizens of Louisville, are using RAMSEY & BROTHER'S SPECTACLES, with perfect satisfaction. We have tried Solomon's.

Dr. Curtis J. Smith, Jno. C. Gane, M. D.
James Hull, sr., Jno. Bege, A. B.
J. A. Bayne, Henry Craw,
Jno. Patterson, Mrs. M. Howard,
Mrs Ann Webb. Mary Bull. d&w

HOLIDAY PRESENTS!

RAMSEY & BRO. are receiving their new styles of Jewelry and Fancy Goods of every variety, for the Holidays.

Strangers visiting the city would do well to give them a call at their new store, on Main street, one door below the corner of Fourth. d&w

WM. KENDRICK.

HOME AGAIN from the East with a new and varied assortment of Watches, Jewelry, &c., of the latest styles, mostly direct from the importers and manufacturers.

Call and examine my stock at No. 71, Third street, between Main and Market. d&w

Joy to the World!

PERRY DAVIS' VEGETABLE PAIN KILLER,

FOR the entire eradication of all Pain—by external or internal use. No family should be without it. [illegible]

The greatest remedy of the day is unquestionably Perry Davis' Pain Killer, for the instant relief of all pains, scalds, bruises, &c., and for pains in the stomach and bowels. It is used with excellent success in sudden attacks of Cholera and Cholera Morbus. No family should prefer it to keep house without it always by them.

As an internal remedy it has no equal. In cases of Cholic, Summer Complaint, Dyspepsia, Dysentery, Asthma, and Rheumatism, it will cure in one night, by taking it internally, and bathing with it freely.

IT IS THE BEST LINIMENT IN AMERICA.

[illegible] For the Sick Headache and Toothache don't fail to try it.

IN SHORT, IT IS A PAIN KILLER.

[illegible]

A POSITIVE REMEDY AGAINST CHOLERA!

[illegible]

Rheumatic Pains are Quieted,

[illegible]

Given to Horses with the Cholic,

[illegible]

THE PATRONS OF THE PAIN KILLER

[illegible]

J. N. HARRIS & CO., Cincinnati, Proprietors of the Western States.

Sold by J. B. Wilder & Bro., Louisville Ky.
Wilson, Starbird & Smith, do do.
R. A. Robinson & Co., do do.
J. M. Mills, Frankfort, Ky.
Geo. W. Norton, Lexington, Ky.
W. W. Berry & Demoville, Nashville, Tenn.
D. C. Wilder & Co., Memphis.
Bearden & Oldham, Knoxville.
J. Wright & Co., New Orleans, La.

And all respectable druggists and dealers in the city and Union. au13d&w6m

GRATIS!

Just Published: A New Discovery in Medicine!

A few words on the rational treatment, without Medicine, of Spermatorrhœa, or Local Weakness, Nervous Debility, Low Spirits, Lassitude, Weakness of the Limbs [illegible]

FROM THE FRENCH OF DR. B. DE LANEY.

[illegible]

Dr. B DE LANEY,
No. 17, Lispenard street, New York.
s25 d&w6m*

DR. GRAVES'

Popular Family Medicines,

Embracing his

CELEBRATED AGUE PILLS.

THAT are sold throughout the West, and have been in the use of for eleven years past by thousands of persons. They never fail to cure Ague, Chills and Intermittents in all their complicated forms, and all other Fevers.

☞ Price 75 cents per box.

GRAVES' Anti-Bilious, Anti-Dyspeptic, Purifying and Cathartic Pills

HAVE won a wide reputation for the cure of Dyspepsia and all derangements of the Liver and Digestive Organs, Costiveness, Cholera Morbus, Foul Stomach, Headache, and many other diseases [illegible]

☞ Price 25 cents per box.

Graves' Pain Extractor

WILL never fail to give immediate relief from pain in Burns and Scalds and a certain cure for Scald Heads [illegible] and old Sores.

☞ Price 50 cents per box.

GRAVES' American Liniment for Man and Beast.

DESIGNED for external and internal use, a sure and sudden cure for Cramp Cholic, Cholera, Cholera Morbus, Toothache, Headache, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, and all other aches and pains, Diarrhœa.

☞ Price 25 cents per bottle.

Graves' Golden Vermifuge.

A SURE cure for Worms which will never fail to expel them from the system.

☞ Price 25 cents per vial.

GRAVES' Cholera Infantum and Bowel Complaint Pills.

VERY valuable to those traveling where the change of weather affects them, and to correct and arrest excessive purging.

☞ Price 25 cents per box.

Each of the above preparations have full directions how to use them.

For sale wholesale and retail by Wilson, Starbird & Smith, J. B. Wilder & Bro., Robinson & Co., Bell, Talbot & Co., G. W. Anderson, M. A. Aiken, G. S. Stewart, John Young and Taylor & Fox, druggists of this city, and by James G. Falwell, of Jeffersonville, by Riley, Lorrer & Riley and Scribner & Devol, of New Albany [illegible] and by seventeen hundred agents throughout the Western States.

o25 d3m&w3m

NOTICE.

THE regular annual meeting of the Stockholders in the Southwestern Agricultural and Mechanical Association, for the purpose of electing officers for the year of 1856, will be held at the Court House in Louisville, Ky., at 10 o'clock, on Saturday, 12th day of January, 1856.

d21 d&w3 HUGH BRENT, Sec'y.

LANDRETH'S GARDEN SEEDS.

WE have made arrangements with D. Landreth, of Philadelphia, for a large supply of Garden Seeds, all of which were raised and put up by him, and labeled with his name.

We are now ready to fill all orders, at wholesale or retail, for the genuine "Landreth" Garden Seeds, and will keep no other.

d24 d&w4 MILLER, WINGATE & CO.

VOGT & KLINK,

MANUFACTURING JEWELLERS

AND DEALERS IN

Watches, Clocks and Fine Jewelry,

NO. 72 THIRD STREET, NEAR MARKET,

Louisville, Ky.

GREAT care taken in setting Diamonds in all descriptions of Jewelry, and done with dispatch.

☞ Watches and Jewelry repaired in a superior manner.

d13 d&w

SUNDRIES.—

1 case DeBege Lusters;
5 do Fast Checks;
13 do Farmers' Shirting;
1 do Marseilles Vesting;
1 do Fancy Prints.

Received this day and for sale by

JAMES LOW & CO.,
418 Main street.

jan1 d&w

PINK PRINTS.—2 cases Sprague & Allen's Pink Prints received this day and for sale by

JAMES LOW & CO.,
d29 d&w 418 Main street.

REPKA'S COTTONADES.—20 cases Repka's Cottonades received this day and for sale by

JAMES LOW & CO.,
d29 d&w 418 Main street.

WASH TUBS—WINER'S PATENT WASH TUBS. We have just received these celebrated Wash Tubs, the best thing of the kind we have ever seen. For sale by

MUNN & BUCHANAN,
jan1 562 Main street

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE LOUISVILLE COURIER }
WEDNESDAY EVENING, January 2 }

Business has been of a dull character this week, owing chiefly to the stringency of the market, and that merchants are all occupied with settling up their accounts, making out and paying bills. Breadstuffs are dull, with a downward tendency the trade heavy, and stocks increasing at all the ports, with very little export demand. The stock of flour in the city of New York is estimated at 700,000 barrels. The hog and provision market is dull at a decline with various sales of hogs for packing at $5 25 nett, which is now the highest quotation. The packing thus far this season sums up 262,000 hogs. Mess pork is selling at prices not made public, but supposed to be $15 per barrel. Hogs were dull at St. Louis last week at $5¼. At Alton, Ill., sales were made at $4 50 and $4 75 and at Springfield at $4 25. At Vincennes on the 28th, hogs sold at $5@5 25 nett. At Lafayette, on the 27th, hogs declined to $4 50@$5—the latter the outside rate for best lots. The following, in regard to the market, is from the Cincinnati Price Current of yesterday, the 2d.

Hogs have continued to decline, and although prices have receded $1 25@$1 50 per 100 lbs from the opening rates, they do not yet seem to have reached a point to inspire purchasers with confidence. The number packed in this city to date is about 330,000 head. The decline in prices here has led to a heavier business in the interior than was anticipated, and parties are packing now at points where it was supposed no hogs would be done. This will prevent the business here from much exceeding 425,000 head. Had prices been sustained the packing here would have reached half a million head. The decline in provisions has been greater in proportion than in hogs, and the demand is quite limited. The following is a comparison of prices this week and last, and also for the corresponding week last year:

	This week.	Last week.	Last year
Hogs, per 100 lbs net	5 50@5 60	5 75@6 00	4 75
Mess Pork	14 00	14 75@15 00	11@11 25
Green Sides	5½	6¼	4½
" Shoulder	4½	5¼	3½
" Hams	7	7½	6½
Barrel Lard	9¼@9½	10	8½

The weather for several days has been exceedingly cold, fully equal to the coldest of last winter, but to-day it is moderate. The river has been falling all the week, though still in good navigable order for steamers and heavy boats, with a good deal of floating ice in the river. Freights are rather dull at quotations, and not as abundant as heretofore.

BAGGING AND ROPE.—We hear of sales this week of some 285 pieces and 260 coils in lots at 16@17c for the former, and 8@9c for the latter. The receipts this week have been 670 pieces and only 34 coils, with moderate shipments, and a stock on hand of 1,362 pieces and 1,694 coils exclusive of factories.

BRAN, SHORTS AND MEAL.—Sales of corn meal at 45@50c per bushel to dealers, and 55c for stores. Sales of Bran at $7@8 to trade, and $10@12 retail prices. Sales of Shipstuffs to trade at $15@16, retail sales at $18.

CANDLES.—We quote sales of star at 26c, stearine and pressed at 13@13 1-2c.

COTTON AND COTTON YARNS.—We hear of sales of 250 bales cotton, in addition to the sales already reported, at 8 1-4@8 1-2 cents for low middling to good middling Alabama and Mississippi. Sales of yarns at 8, 9 and 10c for the assorted numbers.

COAL.—The supply of Pittsburgh continues abundant, with sales at wholesale at 8@9c retail sales at 11@12c.

CHEESE.—Moderate receipts of Western, with sales in lots at 9½@10c a decline.

FEATHERS—Light demand, with sales of lots in shipping order at 45c.

FLOUR AND GRAIN—The market is quiet for Flour, with sales of fair brands at $7 in lots, and $7 25 for choice brands. Sales of Wheat at $1 35@1 40. Corn—35@37 cents, with a sale of 10,000 bushels on private terms. A sale of 100 bushels of Oats at 27 cents. Sales of Rye, from wagons, at 60@65 cents, and 70 cents from stores. Corn declined through the week, with sales yesterday at 32c on the wharf and 35c from store for 400 bushels.

SHEETINGS—We quote sales of good brands at 8 cents.

BATTING—We hear of sales at 11c.

GROCERIES—Some inquiry for Rio Coffee, with a sale of 280 bags inferior at 11 3-4 cents, and 285 bags good Rio in lots at 12@12¼@12½ cents; sales to the country at 12 cents; small sales of N. O. Sugar at 7 3-4@8 cents. Light sales of plantation Molasses at 39@40 cents. Small sales of Rice at 6 1-2c. Sales of 295 bags Rio Coffee at 12¼@12½c; 100 do inferior do at 11. Sugar, 40 hhds New Orleans at $8@8½c; 25 bbls refined do at 10½c. Molasses, 52 bbls prime do at 42c.

GUNNY BAGS.—Receipts fair, with sales in small lots at 22 cents.

HAY.—There have been but light supplies of baled timothy with sales at the wharf at $13@15 per ton. Sales from store at $15.

HEMP.—Light receipts, and we quote dew rotted nominally at $130 per ton.

IRON, NAILS, PIG-IRON AND LEAD.—We quote bar iron as follows: Stone-coal bar iron 3@4c, charcoal bar iron 4@4¼c of the descriptions at the usual rates. Nails $3 50@$3 75 for 10d, and corresponding rates for other sizes. Tennessee Pig-Iron, $33 for No. 1 and $30 for No. 2. Sales of Brewsport No. 1 Pig Iron at the same on 6 and 8 months. Sales of Salt River Iron, Belmont Furnace at $31 a $33 per ton, Pig Lead advanced to 7a7½c. Bar Lead 8@8½ cents. Sales of shot at $2@2 25.

TALLOW.—Sales at 11½@11¾c.

GLASS.—Fair sales of 10x12 at $3 50; sales of 12x18 $5 25, 40 bxs do do 11x18 at $5 50. Sales of Belle Vernon Glass 8x10 to 12x20 at $3 50@6 00. Eberhart's brand 50c per box less.

NAVAL STORES.—Oakum we quote at 8½@12c. Tar $3 75@4 00 ⅌ bbl. Rosin $2 25@3 50. Pitch $4 50. Turpentine declined to 43@47 cents ⅌ gallon.

OILS.—Sales from stall at $1 00 for Linseed, and from store at $1 05@$1 05 cash. Castor oil $1 35@1 50 gall. Neatsfoot at $1 15. Lard oil advanced to 90@95c. Sperm oil $1 85@$1 95; Tanners oil $25, $26 and $37 per bbl. Sales of whale oil at $2 25@2 40 per keg. Putty 4½c.

SEEDS.—We quote flaxseed scarce at $1 75 per bushel. Cloverseed very scarce, with quotations from stores at $9. Timothy seed $2 75@3.

HIDES—Sales of city Flint at 14c; city Cured Dry, Salt and Flint at 13c round—quotation.

City Oak Tanned Sole Leather	25 cents
City Cured Dry Salt Hides	13 cents
City Green [illegible]	5 cents
[illegible] added for commissions	
Missouri Flint	14 cents
Missouri Flint, choice selected	15 cents
Mixed Country Hides at lower figures according to quality.	

LEATHER.—We quote—

Sole city tanned, et	27 cents
[illegible] do at	22@25 cents

JEANS AND LINSEYS.—Small sales at 31@37½c for Jeans and at 40c for Linseys, for negro wear.

LUMBER.—The dealers in this city have established the following rates:

Pine Lumber, clear	$45 ⅌ M
Do. 2d rate	30 do.
Do. 3d rate	20 do.
Common boards	14 do.
Fine-grade flooring	30 do.
Second rate do	40 do.
No. 1 Pine Shingles	4 do.

PROVISIONS AND LARD—Mess Pork early in the week was held at $16, with sales since of 800 barrels on private terms, supposed to be $15. Light sales of Green Meats at 4 1-2 cents for Shoulders, and 8 cents for Hams. Lard has declined, with a sale of 300 tierces at 10 cents, and 31 kegs at 11 cents. A sale of 200 bbls green hams at 8 cents. Sales of 75 casks new Bacon Shoulders at 6 cts. Hams at 10c. Clear sides 10c. Ribbed sides 9c. Packages extra.

TOBACCO—The receipts have been light this week, with sales at the warehouses Thursday of 8 hogsheads as follows: $5 60, 5 40, 5 50, 5 55, 6 55, 5 70, 6 70, and 7 55. Sales Friday, of 3 hhds at $5 45, 7 70, 7 15 and 7 70. Sales Saturday of 10 hhds at $8 50 for one hhd of old leaf, and $5 39, 5 50, 5 85, 6 00, 7 00, 7 20, and $7 10 for new crop. Sales Monday of two hhds only at $5 75, $6 15. Sales Tuesday of 18 hhds, all new crop, at $1 50, 1 90, 5 00, 5 50, 5 15, 5 75, 5 90, 5 95, 6 00, 6 20, 6 40, 6 60 and 6 90.

WHISKY—The sales of raw this week have been uniform at 30½ cts. Sales to-day of 270 bbls at 29c.

FREIGHTS—The rates to the South have fluctuated this week and correct quotations are impossible to give. Shipments during the week have been made at 85@95c per barrel for pork, 70@75c per bbl for flour, and 40@50c for lb freights. Engagements this evening were made at 80c for pork, 90c per tierce for lard, and 20c per keg for lard, and 10c for lb freights, either from the city wharf or Portland. Corn ranges from 40 to 45c per bag. Stock $5@$8 and sheep 75c to $1 per head. To Wheeling and Pittsburg we quote pound freights 20a25c, pork 55a65c per bbl.

LOUISVILLE CATTLE MARKET.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 2d, 1856.

The cattle market has been dull and prices unchanged this week, with moderate receipts. We annex the following range of prices to butchers at the stockyards:

CATTLE—Good at Bullocks and cows, choice to extra at 4 1-2½ net cts gross, equal to 7@7½ nett. Fair at 3 1-2a4c gross; and rough at 2@2½c gross.

HOGS—From Carrollton and Milton, Ky., and Edinburg Ind., slop fed at 5 to 5½c, and choice corn-fed at 5½ cents. Sales for packing at $5 25.

SHEEP—Sheep from $1 25 to $1 50, as to quality.

Telegraph Markets.

CINCINNATI, January 2, M.

Flour—Sales 80 bbls extra at $7 35; superfine quoted at $7 25, and many buyers. Grain—Nothing done. Hogs—Dull and lower, sales yesterday of 500 head at $5 55@5 50 to-day at $5 25. Whisky—Dull at 20½@22½c. Groceries—Dull, nothing doing. Provisions—Lower, and no sales reported.

NEW YORK, January 2, M.

Flour—Firm at $8 40 for choice State; $8 61 for good Ohio, $9 25 for Southern. Wheat—Firm at $1 94 for Southern red, and $2 for white. Corn—Firm. Mess Pork—Sales at $17, declined. Beef—$11 50, drooping. Lard—[illegible], declined. Whisky—35½c, declined.

CHARLESTON, January 1, M.

Cotton—sales to-day of 11,000 bales; market improved, and prices favor buyers. Weather stormy.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 31.

Cotton—Sales to-day 5,000 bales. Sugar—Advanced ⅛c. Molasses—36c. Lard—10½c.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2, P. M.

Flour—Quiet at $8 50 for standard and $8 87 for extra; steady demand for supply of city trade at $9 @ 10. Rye Flour—Steady at $6 12½. Corn Meal—In better request. Wheat—Firm; sales good red at $1 92, white held at $2 02@2 05. Rye—Steady at $1 20 for Western and Pennsylvania. Corn—Advanced, sales at 8@82 for new yellow, and [illegible] for old. Oats—Steady at 42c. Whisky—In limited request at 36c in bbls. in hhds 37c.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2, P. M.

Cotton—Quiet. New Orleans middling 9¾, upland do 9⅛. Sugar—Firm at 8⅞ for Orleans. Oil—Lard at $1 05; Linseed 91c. Iron—Firm; Scotch pig $33. Flour—Dull; sales at $8 25@8 37 for common to good State; $8 40@8 62 for extra, $8 25@8 87 for Western, $9 75@11 50 for extra Genesee, Southern $8 7a9 25 mixed to choice, and $9 50@10 50 for fancy and extra. Rye Flour—$5 75. Corn Meal—$4 12, for Jersey, $4 37 for brandywine. Wheat—Firmer; sales red Tennessee at $1 92½, prime white [illegible] at $2 20. Rye—Sales at $1 31, delivered. Barley—$1 40@1 45 Sales at $1 40a1 50. Corn—Sales at 85@87 for new Southern yellow; 89@90 for white, and 93 for Western mixed. Oats—44a45 for State, and 50a52 for Western. Pork—$16 75a$17 for mess, $14a14 50 for prime. Beef—$9a10 for country prime, $10 50a12 for do mess. $14a14 50 for repacked and Western. Beef Hams—$18a18. Dressed Hogs—7½a8c. Lard—Has declined to 11½a12. Cheese—9½a10½.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK Jan. 2, M.

Stocks higher. Chicago and Rock Island 95; Cleveland and Toledo 78¾; Cumberland 23¾; Erie 55; Galena and Chicago 114; Michigan Southern 91¾; New York Central 91¾; Reading 92¾. Sterling Exchange 8¾a8⅞.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2, P. M.

Stocks lower. Cumberland 23¾, Erie 55, Galena and Chicago 112½. Reading 93; Virginia 6's 94. Sterling Exchange [illegible].

STRAW-CUTTER QUESTION!

MESSRS. J. B. FORD & CO., of the city of New Albany, in the State of Indiana, claiming to be the owner of Sanford's patent-right to manufacture what is known as Sanford's Straw-Cutter, have sold the right to manufacture the same to various persons for certain prescribed territories. And they have warned the public against purchasing the Straw-Cutter manufactured by us. We have been for a long time satisfied that the so-called Sanford patent is a fraud, and that it is void, being a palpable piracy, and an infringement of the patent-right of John Boynton, which bears date of 23th day of September, 1838, and has expired. We have been satisfied that the machine denominated Sanford's Perfect Straw-Cutter, is contracted not according to the specifications contained in Sanford's Patent, but according to the specifications contained in Boynton's. All this has recently been decided in the U. S. Circuit Court for the middle district of Tennessee.

Some months since we sold to B. S. Miller, of Nashville, several of the so-called Sanford's Straw-Cutters, which were taken by him to the State of Tennessee, and there sold. Charles M. Alexander claimed to be the assignee of Sanford's patent for State of Tennessee, from J. B. Ford & Co., and sued Weller on infringement. Weller defended, and insisted that Sanford's patent is void, and a piracy on Boynton; and as we before said, court and jury so decided.

We are prepared as heretofore to furnish all orders for the Straw-Cutters manufactured by us, and to defend any and every person in selling or using them.

d7 dtm&w3m MILLER, WINGATE & CO.

NEW YORK ADVERTISEMENTS.

FROM
ALBERT G. RICHARDSON'S
Advertising and Correspondence Office,
No. 265 Broadway, (opposite the Park,) New York.

TRIESMAR.

THE GREAT EUROPEAN DISCOVERY.

PROTECTED by Royal Letters Patent of England, [illegible] Vienna.

[illegible]

TRIESMAR No. 2—[illegible]

TRIESMAR No. 3—[illegible]

[illegible] A. BARROW, No. 31, [illegible]

d27 1 w3m

[illegible]

HON. FERNANDO WOOD,

MAYOR OF NEW YORK CITY

[illegible]

[illegible] N. 1 Nassau st., N. Y.

J. D. MUNN,

General Engraver and Printer,

NO. 267 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

CARD PLATE Engraved, and 50 best Cards for $1 50; [illegible]

☞ Orders by mail promptly attended to.

d13 d&w3m

DISEASES OF THE EYE AND EAR.

FRANCIS SALTER M. D., M. R. C. S. L. & E.

OCULIST AND AURIST,

27, BOND STREET, NEW YORK.

N. B.—DR SALTER will take pleasure in sending to any address his letters, [illegible]

R. R. R.

QUICK, PLEASANT AND EFFECTUAL REMEDIES THAT NEVER FAIL IN Instantly stopping the most torturing pains—quickly curing the most obstinate Chronic, Acute and Inflammatory Diseases, and

ALL MALE AND FEMALE MALADIES

[illegible]

FROM ALL BODILY INFIRMITIES.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF.

PAIN.

No person has ever yet used Radway's Ready Relief who has been tormented with pain, whether caused from accidents or external injuries, or from disease and bodily ailment, without deriving a speedy and lasting relief [illegible]

[illegible]

RHEUMATISM.

Radway's Ready Relief vouched the best Physicians in Fredonia, [illegible] Ohio.

[illegible]

BOWEL COMPLAINTS.

[illegible]

ACHES AND PAINS.

[illegible]

CARTER'S SPANISH MIXTURE

THE GREAT PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD.

LET THE AFFLICTED READ AND PONDER

[illegible]

And for sale by SUTCLIFFE & HUGHES, Louisville, Ky., and by Dealers generally. 12 dsod&weow1ris

COPARTNERSHIP.

B. R. CLARK, having this day associated with himself Dr. T. B. Johnston in the Wholesale Drug business, at the house heretofore occupied by the firms of J. M. Montgomery & Co. and B. R. Clark & Co., the business will be hereafter conducted under the style of CLARK & JOHNSTON.

B. R. CLARK,
T. B. JOHNSTON.

Louisville, January 1, 1856 [illegible]

FOR SALE.

A Country Seat on the Newburg road, three miles south-east of Louisville, containing 7 acres. The place has on it a very large Brick Dwelling and stand, containing 29 odd rooms. The materials for finishing the house are mostly prepared and are in the building. The House is of modern construction, upon the most approved architectural models, and would be admirably suited for a large Female Academy. The neighborhood for health and tasteful improvements is superior to any near Louisville.

For further particulars apply to HENNING & SPEED,
d11 d3&w3 Real Estate Agents, Louisville, Ky

Ohio River Farm for Sale.

HAVING become unable from age and infirmity to attend to my farm, I feel desirous to sell it. It contains about 306 acres, lying in Oldham county, 13 miles from Louisville, near the Ohio river, and also near the Louisville and Ladiestown plank road. About 350 acres are cleared and fit for hemp, corn, wheat, &c. The balance is well set in young grass and the woodland prepared for grass. Near the center of the farm is a large grove of superior timber of about four acres. There is on the farm a first-rate Brick Dwelling House, containing nine rooms, with one kitchen on the whole house, a good cistern and all necessary out-buildings, with carriage house and stables, and two first-rate and convenient frame barns. The whole farm is enclosed under good fences and well subdivided. The farm is in fine condition and will be sold for one-third cash, and the other payments arranged to suit purchasers, with interest from date and a lien on the property.

For further information apply to Barbaroux & Snowden, Louisville, or to F. Snowden, on the premises.

d15 d&w4

Louisville Agricultural Works.

Kentucky Corn and Cob Mill.

IT is well known that there is great economy in crushing or grinding the kernels of all grain before feeding it to stock, and that there is much nutriment in the cob when properly broken or ground. And the only reason that mills arranged to produce these desired results have not been more generally introduced among the planters and farmers has been their complex arrangement and high cost.

In the Kentucky Corn and Cob Mill, of which the above is an accurate engraving, we claim to have produced a machine at once efficient, substantial and cheap, while its arrangement is so simple, that the most ordinary hand can adjust and operate it. This machine, unlike any other, is regulated by means of a single set screw, which is easily moved by hand, and is applied directly under the center of the mill.

Any one using these Mills will find a clear saving of ONE QUARTER of their corn over the usual plan of feeding.

We warrant these Mills to give entire satisfaction. Purchasers may use them for thirty days, and if not satisfied can return them and receive their money.

They will grind corn and Cob as fine as desired at the following rate per hour with one horse:

No. 1, 1 to 3 bushels per hour. Weight 350 lbs. Price $35
No. 2, 6 to 8 bushels per hour. Weight 450 lbs. Price $40

The above prices include the complete Mill ready to attach to with at any farther expense, and set it up in operation in five minutes time.

STRAW-CUTTERS.

Having made extensive arrangements to manufacture the popular Cutter known as "Sanford's," we are prepared to furnish them to the farmers and dealers, made from the best material, and in a more thorough and finished manner than any article of the kind ever offered to the public.

The advantages claimed by the manufacturers for this Cutter over all others in use are the following:

1st. It cuts the hay or straw finer and grinds or crushes the feed in a better manner.

2d. It is less liable to get out of order by inattention or carelessness on the part of the operator.

3d. It is more durable—the knives not cutting against a bed-piece or roller, are only worn by the contact with the feed.

4th. We warranty every machine to give entire satisfaction to the purchaser or refund the money on the return of the box.

We have reduced our retail prices as follows:

No. 1 Cutter ... $16
No. 2 Cutter ... 12

☞ A liberal discount made to dealers. Orders promptly attended to.

MILLER, WINGATE & CO.,
Manufacturers of Farming Implements and Machines,
a3 wtf Louisville, Ky.

New Principle! New Remedy! No Poison!!!

Rhodes' Fever and Ague Cure:

OR ANTIDOTE TO MALARIA,

FOR THE PREVENTION AND CURE OF Fever and Ague, or Chill Fever, Dumb Ague, and other Intermittent and Remittent Fevers, [illegible]

MALARIA OR MIASMA.

[illegible]

GENERAL DEBILITY AND NIGHT SWEATS, [illegible]

PREVENTIVE.

[illegible]

NEW YORK, June 11, 1855

[illegible]

JAMES R. CHILTON, M. D., Chemist.

[illegible]

J. C. [illegible], Apothecary

[illegible]

LATTIMER & [illegible]

[illegible]

JAMES GAYLORD.

LETTER FROM A PHYSICIAN.

[illegible]

"RHODES' FEVER and AGUE CURE." [illegible]

J. B. WILDER & BRO.
LINDENBERGER & CO.
WILSON, STARBIRD & SMITH
BELL, TALBOTT & CO.
B. R. CLARK & CO.
R. A. ROBINSON & CO.

And druggists generally. [illegible]

TODD'S TOBACCO WAREHOUSES.

Corner of Main and Seventh Streets.

LOUISVILLE, KY.

[illegible]

THE STODART PIANO.

SMITH & NIXON,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

AGENTS for the [illegible]

THE STODART PIANO IS UNSURPASSED [illegible]

Ninth Street Tobacco Warehouse,

Corner of Main and Ninth streets,

LOUISVILLE, KY.

THE undersigned, formerly proprietor of Todd's Warehouse, [illegible]

FRANK ROBARD.

OHIO RIVER FARM FOR SALE.

A VERY [illegible]

d25 d&w4

GEORGE S. MILLER,

Flour Dealer, Grocer, and Commission Merchant,

NO. 560, SOUTH SIDE MAIN STREET, Bet. Second and Third, Louisville, Ky.

[illegible]

a2 wtf

BENJ. A. FLOCK,

VENITIAN BLIND MAKER,

No. 94, Third Street, near Main.

a8 1 aw

THE LOUISVILLE WEEKLY COURIER---A CHEAP PAPER FOR THE MAN OF BUSINESS, THE FARMER, AND THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

Governor's Message.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

You have convened according to the terms of the Constitution to deliberate upon, and to provide for, the general welfare and interests of our common constituents. I tender to you my congratulations upon the happy and prosperous condition of our beloved Commonwealth. That heart must indeed be callous that would not bow in humble and profound gratitude for the extraordinary blessings which have been conferred upon us by a merciful Providence. With the exception of a few localities, we have been blessed during the past year with unusual good health. A season of unprecedented abundance have warded the labors of the husbandman, and full and remunerating prices for all the products of the earth have pronounced throughout our borders a state of almost unexampled prosperity. Our treasury is abundant and our public debt gradually becoming extinguished. Every pecuniary demand upon the State has been promptly met and discharged.

Blessed with peace—cultivating a soil so the rich est and most prolific character, with the heritage of liberty as the birthright of every citizen, governed by a system of equal, just and salutary laws—with the constitutional guaranty to every one to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of his own conscience—and with a Federal Government which has expanded into a Union of thirty-one sovereign republics, all alike free, inhabited by twenty-five millions of kindred citizens—our people have indeed cause to be grateful to God for his wonderful kindness to man, a State and nation, and for the infinite wisdom with which he has endowed our fathers, who achieved the independence and secured to us the liberty we enjoy.

The Constitution of the State having prescribed biennial sessions of the Legislature, it becomes my duty, in giving to you information of the state of the Commonwealth, to refer you to the report of the Auditor for the year 1854, which will be laid before you.

It will be seen, as stated by my predecessor in his last message, that the balance in the treasury on the 10th of October 1853, was $187 692 23. The receipts into the treasury from the 11th October, 1853, to the 10th of October, 1854, amounted to $697,496 55—making an aggregate of $885,-191 78. This includes not only the revenue for the ordinary expenses of the government, but the tax of five cents on the $100 for the Sinking Fund, and two cents for Common School purposes. The amount of expenditures for the same period was $773,381 47—leaving a balance in the treasury on the 10th of October, 1854, of $111,730 31. During this year, and out of these receipts, there was transferred to the Sinking Fund, for the five cents revenue, taxes on forfeited lands, and tax on insurance offices, $179,885 48, there was also transferred for surplus revenue, for the year ending 10th of October, 1853, $60,000—making 10th October 1854, $239,885 48. During this year there was also transferred, in the manner the School Fund for the two cents revenue, dividends on bank stock, 1 s on bank stock, and interest on school bonds, the sum of $89,513 76.

The receipts into the treasury from the 11th October, 1854, to the 10th October 1855, amounted to $697,496 90 To which the balance in the treasury on the 10th day of October 1854, of $111,730 31, added, will make the sum of $809,427 80. The expenditures, including the transfers to the Sinking and School Funds, amounted to $739,606 25—leaving in the treasury on the 10th of October, 1855, the sum of $255,731 55 Of this sum there belonged to the Sinking Fund on the 1st day of January, 1856, $104,687 54; to the School Fund, $ 6,-839 90; to ordinary revenue, $91,204 11—making the total amount as before stated, $255,731 55

During the year there was transferred to the Sinking Fund for the five cents revenue, for taxes on forfeited lands, and on insurance offices, the sum of $191,946 48; and for the School Fund for the two cents revenue, dividends on bank stock, tax on bank stock, interest on school bonds, &c., $226,-363 11. These items constitute a part of the aggregate expenditures reported for this year. Since the 10th of October, 1855, the above sum of $104,-687 54 has been transferred to the Sinking Fund. Also, the surplus revenue of the School Fund for this year, amounting to $76,518 55—leaving in the treasury on the 10th of October, 1855, as ordinary revenue, $47,985 56. The law requires a surplus to be left of ten thousand dollars, and the residue of the above sum was for outstanding balances against the treasury.

The receipts for the year ending the 10th day of October 1855, are estimated by the Auditor as follows, viz: The revenue of 1855 amounts to $717,-073 27. Charges, &c., will be about $50,000. Amount paid previous to the 1st of October, 1855, the sum of $ 7,946 78—leaving in the treasury the sum of $661,126 49. Of this sum, $199,467 78 belongs to the Sinking Fund, viz: $77,903 11 of this to the School Fund—making $276,370 89 to be added—leaving for ordinary revenue the sum of $389,015 58. Estimated receipts for ordinary revenue from other sources, $149,000. Balance in the treasury on the 10th of October 1855, $47,985 56 Making the aggregate of $586,001 14.

The estimate of expenditures for 1856, $381,000 estimated debt to be paid, $100,000—making an aggregate of $481,000, which would leave a balance in the treasury, on the 10th of October, 1856, of $5,001 14.

In view of our finances, while showing a sufficient amount for all the necessary purposes of economical administration of the government, on the same time admonishes us against any extraordinary or lavish expenditure of the public money. While I would by all pertinency, I cannot too strongly recommend to the observance of a wise and salutary economy in all our public expenditures. A portion of the public revenue has been dedicated to the payment of the interest, and when the debt is extinguished, the whole will be applied to the support of the State government. It is the settled and fixed policy of our State to keep her public debt as rapidly as our resources will allow, not as a source of gratification, to pause that the sum already dedicated to that purpose are ample to pay the interest on it securities, and prudently and wisely managed, to extinguish it principal at maturity.

From the 31st of December, 1853, to the 4th of September, 1855, when the term of my predecessor expired, there was paid of the principal of the State debt the sum of $162,000. Since I have been in office $31,000, up to the 30th November, 1855, have been paid—leaving the entire aggregate of State debt on that day $5,931,576 73. Of this sum $60,000 are held by the Southern Bank of Kentucky, the interest upon which it is bound to pay, and for which its assets holds that amount of stock, and $1,369,664 73, are held by the Board of Education, the interest upon which they pay into the treasury as a perpetual charge upon the Sinking Fund. The actual debt, the principal of which has to be provided for, therefore, is $4,021,912. Since the 30th of November, 1855, up to which period the above statement is made, there has been redeemed of the public debt the sum of $14,000. The semi-annual interest due the first day of January, 1856, has been paid to the New York and will be promptly paid. For details with regard to the public debt, when the bonds were issued, under what law, and when maturing, and for a detailed statement of the resources of the Sinking Fund I refer you to the report of the Commissioners which will be laid before you.

The total receipts of the Sinking Fund from the 1st of January, 1854, to the 10th of October of the same year, including the balance then on hand, were $391,103 80. The expenditures during the same period were $242,695 05—leaving a balance in the treasury on the 10th of October, 1854, of $148,408 75. The receipts from the 10th of October, 1854, to the 10th of October, 1855, including the annual balance, were $682,491 50. The expenditures during the same period were $519,015 87—leaving a balance in the Treasury on the 10th of October, 1855, of $163,478 63. From 11th of October, 1855, to the 30th of November, 1855, there was transferred to the Sinking Fund, of surplus revenue, $76,518 56, and for collection of revenue from forfeited the sum of $104,687 54—the three sums making an aggregate amount of $344,684 72 The expenditures from 11th of October, 1855, to the 30th of November, $7,868 50—leaving a balance in the Sinking Fund, on the 30th of November, 1855, of $316,816 22. This balance is after the payment of the interest due 1st of January, 1856. The entire amount may be safely used in purchasing the bonds of the State, and I have accordingly anxiously sought to make such investment. The holders of our bonds, however, seem reluctant to bring them to market, and comparatively a small amount only has been purchased. That fund, by law, is required to deposit in our banks without yielding anything to the Sinking Fund. The Commissioners connected with me that as long as it remained uncalled for in bank it ought to command some reasonable interest A accordingly an arrangement was made with the Bank of Kentucky, that it should keep the sum of $100,-000 in the city of New York, without charge for its transfer, for the purpose of purchasing bonds of the State, upon which an interest of three per cent. per annum should be paid, and for the sum of $210,000 an interest of four per cent should be paid, and the whole deposit of $310,000, or any part of it, to be subject to call by the Commissioners, whenever wanted for investment or any other purpose. It is desirable that this fund should be used as speedily as practicable in redeeming our debt, and no pains will be spared to effect that object.

I am happy to inform you that the School Fund is in a healthy and prosperous condition. The interest upon the bonds of the State held by the Board of Education has been regularly and promptly paid by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, and all moneys set apart and dedicated to common school education have been applied to that purpose. The system is in operation in every county in the Commonwealth For the detailed operations of the system since the last meeting of the General Assembly, I refer you to the able and satisfactory report of the Superintendent for the year 1854, and to the report he will lay before you for the year 1855. The annual appropriations of the fund are there set forth in connection with the disbursements for each county of the Commonwealth.

By the 3d section of article I of the common school law, it is directed that the balance on the credit of the counties, not called for each year, shall be transferred by the Board of Education to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, and that our Auditor shall execute a bond of the Commonwealth to the Board of Education, redeemable at the pleasure of the Legislature, and bearing interest at six per cent. per annum, payable annually, and specifying therein the amount due to each county. My predecessor, in consequence of this provision of the law, received of Auditor Bigger, of Bracken county, a bond of the State for $4 891 72, which, added to the bonds previously held by the Board, makes the aggregate amount $1,369 164 73 The interest upon these bonds, the dividends upon 750 shares of stock in the Bank of Kentucky, the tax on bank stock, and that on the Commercial Bank and the Commercial Bank and the Louisville Savings Institution, under the law on the subject, constitute the available means in the hands of the Board of Education for the support of common schools. The Legislature will, no doubt, by additional appropriations, make the system as efficient as the means at its command will allow. Whether, however, a still further appropriation can be made from the general revenue, I am not prepared to say. The act of March 1st, 1854, provides that the surplus of the specified revenue of the Commonwealth shall be taken upon the property and extraordinary of imposing an additional tax of three cents on each one hundred dollars worth of property in the State, for the purpose of increasing this fund. In pursuance of this act, a poll was appointed throughout the State, at the last August election, which resulted in a vote of 82,-765 for the tax and 25,230 against it, giving a majority of 57,536 votes

It will be your privilege to carry into effect the decisive and emphatic expression of the popular will. The means derived from this additional tax, with a poll as appointed throughout the State, will be amply sufficient to meet the demands of the system, which has already received so much favor for the Young generation. The one will travel through our State can see with its pure and education the great source of school income which have sprung up in every part of our land, filled with happy and joyous children eagerly imbibing the rudiments of learning. I must not here dwell upon the importance of education, as the surest guaranty for the perpetuity of our free institutions. With the feelings that are entertained in common by the great mass of our constituents, I am sure that I need not exhort you to foster and protect this great popular interest. It has intertwined itself with the popular heart, and the people have decreed that it shall be placed upon a permanent and enduring basis. With the existence of the system it has become more and more popular. The schoolmaster is no longer regarded as the hired pedant, but has accorded to him that high position in society which every public benefactor is entitled to. He is regarded as a high and honorable profession, and at no period in the history of our State has the public interest become more important, demanded that this profession should be fostered and encouraged. The time has passed by when mere labor and bodily toil can make the successful farmer or artisan. The rapid and almost miraculous improvements in machinery, the railroads already constructed and projected that thread our country with their massive engines, requiring daily skilled labor, the advance in agricultural chemistry, the application of science to the construction of almost every farming implement—all tell us, in language that cannot be mistaken, that the farmer, the artisan, and the day laborer ought to be educated. What can be expect who is thrown upon the world without means and without education, and what a boundless field for success does our country afford to him who is educated, honest and industrious! Yet it is not pretended that a high order of education is requisite for the enterprising young man to enter with success in this country. The elements of an education are all that is absolutely required. Open to him the book of knowledge; teach him how to learn; let him realize that he can become educated, and if gifted with a stout heart, and that iron will which is the element of all success, he will advance in improvement until qualified to fill the various stations in life to which he may be called.

The asylum for the deaf and dumb is now in the fifty-third year of its existence. It is a State institution, and subject to its control. It has been managed with industrial and ability and its liberal and liberally diffused over the country. Its Trustees, at the last meeting of the General Assembly, have erected a new and substantial edifice, large enough for their present and prospective wants, in addition to that fronting on Broadway, and have also asked for appropriations to their old buildings. They will petition the Legislature for some aid to complete the edifice, and I cannot institute to commend their application to your favorable consideration.

The asylum for the blind, without the possibility of fresh air, and wholly unfit for the purpose No bedding more than blankets has ever been supplied since it has been a prison. The present energetic and efficient Keeper complained of this abuse so soon as he came into office, but the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund had not think that they had the power to remedy the wrong. In part of the disclosures, and described to make provision for such bedding as so need to be demanded by the public sentiment of the country.

It will be your duty to take such action on this whole subject as in your wisdom you may deem right and proper. It is well worthy of your serious consideration, whether the present system of the law, in relation to the blind, should not be changed. Many of the pupils are idiots, and by the present law they cannot be discharged from the asylum. Of the number of pupils, more than half of them can be educated so as to be benefit to society, and the condition of all greatly ameliorated. We are paying annually from our treasury upwards of $20,000 for the support of this poor and neglected class of our population. The propriety and expediency of some provision for their education is a subject well worthy of legislative inquiry.

Your particular and early attention is respectfully invited to the condition of our State Prison. The present Keeper came into office on the 1st of March, 1855. The number of prisoners then in confinement was 193. The number received since that time has been 119—making 312. Of this number 13 have escaped, and 1 been discharged by expiration of sentence and executive pardon—leaving 297 now in prison The law contemplates the confinement of these prisoners in solitary cells at night, yet on examination, it will be found that there are not more than 126 cells which can be safely used. These cells are damp and unhealthy, and altogether unworthy of the spirit of the age.

The hospital is confined to those, without the possibility of fresh air, and wholly unfit for the purpose No bedding more than blankets has ever been supplied since it has been a prison. The present energetic and efficient Keeper complained of this abuse so soon as he came into office, but the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund did not think that they had the power to remedy the wrong. In part of the disclosures, and described to make provision for such bedding as so need to be demanded by the public sentiment of the country.

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Under an act to provide for a Geological and Mineralogical Survey of the State, approved 6th of March, 1854, my predecessor appointed Mr. David D. Owen, an able and accomplished geologist of enlarged experience and great practical skill, to carry the law into effect. He has been diligently and most industriously engaged, and for the result of his labors I cannot do better than to refer you to the interesting and learned report now with submitted. It will be seen that his explorations are yet unfinished. Of the importance and value of such a survey as will be made by one so justly celebrated in his profession, I cannot entertain a doubt, nor can I doubt that the calculable benefit of such a survey will be appreciated by the representatives of the people. The development of the mineral wealth of the State, the opening of abundant and inexhaustible supplies of cheap fuel, the quantities, kinds and qualities of iron ores, their locality and geological position, and that of the salt, saltpetre, coal, marble, building stone and rock, the different soils and the means of their improvement and renovation, are some of the fruits to result from the survey. The successful completion of a work which has been inaugurated under such flattering auspices will necessarily advance the interests and reputation of the State, and its advancement in the higher departments of learning is only limited by the degree of his application and genius. The blind have to be manner been instructed in reading, and made useful in various trades and domestic employments.

The asylum for the deaf and dumb is now in the fifty-third year of its existence. It is a State institution, and subject to its control. It has been managed with industrial and ability and its liberal and liberally diffused over the country. Its Trustees, at the last meeting of the General Assembly, have erected a new and substantial edifice, large enough for their present and prospective wants, in addition to that fronting on Broadway, and have also asked for appropriations to their old buildings. They will petition the Legislature for some aid to complete the edifice, and I cannot institute to commend their application to your favorable consideration.

My predecessor, in his last message, recommended to the Legislature, in order to encourage and foster the agricultural and mechanical interests of the State, that a sum of money should be appropriated for the purpose of dispensing premiums to those who might produce the best fruits, grains, vegetables, animals, agricultural implements and products of domestic manufactures. I concurred with him in that recommendation when made, and in renewing it I beg that you will bestow upon it your most favorable consideration These premiums could be awarded in a manner to be prescribed by law, at the mechanical and agricultural exhibitions now established in various parts of the State, and could not fail to be highly beneficial in awakening a friendly rivalry in the productions of mechanical skill, and in the various products of agriculture labor. The beneficial results in other States of our Union, of distributing State premiums at their industrial exhibitions, have been felt and acknowledged.

For the present condition of our works of internal improvement, I must refer you to the report of the President of the Board, which will be laid before you at an early day. The dividends from these works are sacredly dedicated by the constitution to the Sinking Fund No new debt can be contracted in behalf of the Commonwealth, unless provision be at the same time made to lay and collect an annual tax sufficient to pay the interest stipulated, and to discharge the debt within thirty years, nor can such debt be made until the law shall have been submitted to the people at a general election, and shall have received a majority of all the votes cast for and against it. With this and many constitutional prohibition, there can be no expenditure by the Legislature in new schemes of public improvement. The dividends from some of the public works might be greatly enhanced by their extension, and I recommend that the most liberal inducements should be offered to individuals and companies to effect such extensions.

While we cannot increase our public debt, it is gratifying to know that the people of Kentucky are beginning to estimate properly the great advantages of extended railroad improvements, and are making the most active and energetic movements to meet the iron mass that our sister States are extending to greet us on our borders. What visionary to look forward to the day when the road from the mouth of Big Sandy shall be completed to the Mississippi river, and constitute a link in the great Atlantic and Pacific route, which must sooner or later be made, in order to bind together by iron bands the now distant parts of this great confederacy.

The banks of our State are in a sound and prosperous condition. They have generally been judiciously conducted and will compare favorably with similar institutions in any other State. They hold a currency of uniform value, and the public confidence in their solvency is unshaken. There is no subject in which the community is more vitally interested than in having a sound and uniform currency. To avoid the fictitious value now too often attached to property, to prevent the multiplication of schemes of visionary speculation, to escape the indiscreet bairaing into increased indebtedness and a state of fictitious values, corresponding but delusive, artificial and transient prosperity which are the forerunner of bankruptcy, the enough to be an unnecessary or moral expression of the currency. There is no fact in political economy better established than that an excess of paper issues leads to the exportation of the precious metals. It lessens the depreciation of the banks to redeem their paper, and produces those constant fluctuations which are so destructive to the best interests of the community. If not the direct cause, it is inseparably connected with those ruinous and monetary revulsions, which have visited our country at such short intervals.

With those convictions on my mind, I do not think that it would add anything to the prosperity of the State to increase the number of our banks All the banks in the State have now the right to issue one dollar bills. I recommend a prohibition of the issue or circulation, after a specified time, of any bank note of a less denomination than five dollars. I do not doubt but that the banks will cooperate to the best of their ability in carrying this object. By making the measure prospective, gold and silver will soon supply the vacuum caused by the withdrawal of the small bills, and the wholesome change will be almost imperceptibly effected.

By section 24 of article 4 of the Constitution, the General Assembly, if they deem it necessary, may establish one additional judicial district in the State, and appoint a Judge for the same. Whether such a measure be necessary, I am unwilling to express an opinion. The subject is one which can be safely and satisfactorily investigated